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AC The Allegan COUNTY NEWS

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Volume 70, Issue 46 · www.wilcoxnewspapers.com Thursday, March 26, 2026

Senior meal switch has fallout

By Scott Sullivan
Writer

Arms are up in the precincts after the Allegan County Commission dumped 20-year senior meal provider Community Action for Allegan County in favor of Grandville-based Meals on Wheels for $8.50 per meal, compared to CAAC's $12.27). CAAC's 3-year contract was set to expire April 1 but came earlier.

The elected county board of commissioners pulled the plug March 9, awarding it MOW effective immediately

The county Committee on Aging — an advisory group charged with supporting local seniors' independence — had recommended the county do so side-by-side comparison of services rather than point-scoring as when awarding past contracts.

CAAC's hot meal bid "provides ready-to-eat meals with minimal client preparation and aligns with what current participants are accustomed to receiving," say COA findings.

"However, the model is

Lisa Evans

Rob Sarro

operationally intensive, highly dependent on daily delivery logistics and carries higher per-meal costs. Limited meal customization and vulnerability to weather and staffing disruptions were also identified."

Comparatively, MOW's frozen meal plan "offers greater consistency in meal quality, expanded meal choice, accommodation of dietary needs and flexibility for clients to consume meals at their convenience. Operational efficiencies result in lower overall costs and improved scalability.

"The model allows resources (via the county's voted senior millage) to be redirected to serve additional clients while maintaining nutritional standards. The committee noted that this model requires client education and transition planning due to change from the current structure."

"Based on the evaluation of service models, vendor capabilities, cost sustainability and individual committee member recommendation, the COA concluded, "the frozen-meal delivery model best meets

Jim Storey on the stump, 2023.

the county's goals for high-quality, reliable and sustainable meal delivery.

"The committee recommends proceeding with the frozen-meal delivery model as the preferred approach for Home Delivered Meals, with appropriate client communication, transition planning and safeguards to support successful implementation."

The county board made its choice Feb. 26. Why did members cut CAAC's contract early?

"It's a power and control issue," said Jim Storey, the lone COA member to vote "no." Before then he was a 2013-2024 county board member who served five

■ see **Meals**, Page A10

9-year-old honored for lifesaving CPR

By Gari Voss

Logan Vangemert made his way onto the stage at Brandon Elementary School on Friday morning, March 20, 2026, to receive the Heart Saver Award from the American Heart Association. Though this was the regular monthly school-wide assembly, it became a special event when the theme focused on 9-year old Logan and his journey to this moment.

In early February 2026, Logan decided to learn hands-on CPR through the American Heart Association's Kids Heart Challenge program that was offered at Brandon Elementary. The Kids Heart Challenge has been in existence for almost 50 years and focuses on whole body well-being, helping students improve their own health and their character while raising life-saving donations for the American Heart Association to help kids with special hearts.

Each site requires a "director". At Brandon Elementary, Sydney VanDyke, the K-8th grade physical education teacher, assumed the leadership role and organized the training sessions.

During the training, the children involved in the program worked with VanDyke who engaged them in educational modules. One of the modules involved hands only CPR. It was this module that was key to Logan's award.

One day after watching the hands-only CPR video, Logan was in the children's room at his church when the supervisor, Tom, fell onto the floor from sudden cardiac arrest. Tom's wife, Beth, began to perform hands-only CPR but froze. Logan stepped forward and performed

Logan Vangemert received the Heart Saver Award from the American Heart Association on Friday, March 20, 2026, for his quick action that led to saving a person who was in cardiac arrest.

hands-only CPR for several minutes with other adults until an AED (automated external defibrillator) was located and used to restart Tom's heart.

Tom has made a full recovery after undergoing quadruple bypass surgery and having a pacemaker installed. He was released from the hospital in late February and is recovering at home.

The Kids Heart Challenge (KHC) program director, Sydney VanDyke, told the KHC Development Director in West Michigan, Jason Kane, of Logan's heroics. Kane took the information and began making the arrangements for the presentation of the Heart Saver Award from the American Heart Association.

Thus, on Friday, March 20, 2026, Logan Vangemert came up on the Brandon Elementary School stage to be recognized for his actions during a cardiac arrest emergency that saved the life of the church school supervisor. As Logan was presented with the Heart Saver Award, Kane, congratulated Logan for not only completing the Kids Heart Challenge program, while thanking him for his quick response in using hands-only CPR to save a life.

February is Heart Month and the American Heart Association encourages all adults and children to learn CPR and join the Nation of Lifesavers. If performed immediately, CPR can double or even triple a cardiac arrest victim's chance of survival. About 90% of people who suffer out-of-hospital arrests die when not given CPR in a matter of minutes. 70% of cardiac arrests occur in the home, so having family and friends trained in CPR is essential.

For mor information on becoming trained in CPR and AED use, go to https://heart-saverinstitute.com/.

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From the Pulpit to the Plaza: How Carlos Esmeralda Lopez is changing lives in West Michigan

By Art Nicholas

In a small city like Fennville, Michigan, big change often comes through the hands of one determined person. For this tight-knit community on the shores of Lake Michigan, that person is Carlos Esmeralds Lopez — pastor, mayor, and relentless servant of those in need.

Lopez made history as Fennville's first Hispanic mayor, a milestone that reflects both the city's evolving demographics and the trust its residents have placed in a man who has spent years proving his commitment to them. But for Lopez, public office is just one arena where he shows up. Long before he sat in the mayor's chair, he was building something else entirely — a ministry and a mission rooted in the belief that faith without action is incomplete.

As pastor of the Bread House Church, Lopez has cultivated a congregation grounded in service. That same spirit animates his leadership of the WMM Resource Center, a nonprofit that operates with almost nothing on paper but delivers an extraordinary amount on the ground.

The numbers are staggering for an organization running on just $12,000 a year. Last year alone, the WMM Resource Center distributed 191 beds to families and individuals who had been sleeping on floors across West Michigan. It served 8,800 people in total and gave away more than 400 winter jackets to those facing Michigan's brutal cold without adequate protection. Once a month in Pullman, Michigan, the center hosts a food and clothing commodities giveaway, offering a lifeline to families stretching every dollar.

Perhaps most remarkable is what the center calls its goods program. Over time, the WMM Resource Center has distributed an estimated $90,000 worth of household items — completely free of charge. Appliances, couches, fans, clothing, parts, and more have found their way into the homes of people who needed them most. There are no price tags, no applications, no bureaucratic hoops. Just people helping people.

And they do it all without a single paid employee. Every volunteer who loads a truck, sorts donations, or hands a jacket to a shivering family does so on their own time, for no compensation other than the knowledge that someone's life is a little better because of them.

"We are all volunteers. No employees," Lopez has said of the organization — a simple statement that carries the full weight of what grassroots community service looks like when it's done right.

Lopez embodies a kind of leadership that is increasingly rare: the kind that doesn't stop at the end of a workday or a term in office. Whether he is navigating city business as mayor, shepherding his congregation at the Bread House Church, or coordinating another round of donations at the resource center, he is driven by the same core conviction — that the people of West Michigan deserve dignity, warmth, and someone in their corner.

When asked what he would like the community to do to support his overall mission, he shared" For Folks to continue to help one another and to Pray for my Strength"

In Fennville and beyond, Carlos Esmeralda Lopez is proving that the most powerful offices aren't always the ones with a title.

WUS Fundraisers under scrutiny

By Joseph Schultz

Fundraising activities came under scrutiny at the Monday night meeting of the Wayland Union School Board. The board raised questions after learning that a group had used a Wayland Union "character" for a trip fundraiser that the administration had no knowledge of.

Leslie Wagner, Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations, explained that district policy requires a school group to obtain approval from the school administration. Groups must submit a form stating their fundraising goal, whether any District funds are already committed, and the name of the staff member in charge of the fundraiser.

Once the form was signed off by the principal or department administrator, Wagner would review the request to ensure the group had the necessary licenses and that there were no scheduling conflicts. Approval or denial was mostly determined by the calendar, as it was the district's policy not to overlap fundraising activities.

However, a "loophole" in the policy allows outside groups and organizations to conduct fundraising activities and then donate the proceeds to school groups or teams. Direct donations from organizations are not prohibited by the current policy.

Board member Becky Hohnke expressed concern about the volume of fundraisers. It was noted that Gun Lake Casino has donated large sums of money to the school district to offset the need for fundraising. Wayland Union is one of the few districts in the state that does not have a "Pay to Play" requirement. However, the volume of additional fundraisers was causing the community to feel overtaxed by donation requests.

The board as a whole wants to re-evaluate how fundraising is managed. They aim to avoid overtaxing the community while still allowing students to pursue various opportunities. No formal action was taken, but the board intends to re-evaluate the issue once they select a policy provider.

Policy Provider Evaluation

Since the beginning of the school year, the board has been reviewing law firms that provide assistance in crafting school policies. While the district has worked with Neola for years, other area districts rely on Thrun or Clark Hill.

Board members are currently reviewing weapons policies crafted by all three firms. Members also want to know how much time and money it will cost should they decide to switch firms. Further discussions will take place at a Policy Committee meeting on April 27.

Student Device Review

The board also conducted a review of educational devices. While the administration expressed a desire to provide iPads for all students, staff members from the middle and high schools pushed back, advocating for Chromebooks instead.

After several committee meetings and reviews, the district decided to move forward with iPads but will offer Chromebooks to middle and high school students as part of a pilot program next year.

EDITOR's NOTE: Story courtesy of TownBroadcast

Man takes plea in cockfighting incident

An Allegan County man has taken a plea agreement for charges related to cockfighting.

On March 16, Edin Dilson Rodas, a Hopkins Township man, agreed to plead no contest to one count of animals fighting, one count of animals fighting equipment and one count of animals killing/torturing third degree.

As part of the agreement, two counts of animal fighting were dismissed.

The charges stem from a video. An animal advocacy group called SHARK (Showing Animals Respect and Kindness) sent the Allegan County Sheriff's Office a video showing a suspected cockfighting event at Rodas' home in Hopkins Township on July 26, 2025.

Three days later, deputies executed a search warrant at the home and found evidence to support the charges. Rodas was arraigned on Sept. 23, 2025.

Rodas will be sentenced in April.

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Heroes and Scoundrels enlighten audiences

By Gari Voss

When Spike Kunetz attempted to describe his script Heroes and Scoundrels, as a collection of seven short plays that "satirize conventional notions of heroism and villainy", this sounded like a simple production of good vs evil. For those who attended the performances of Heroes and Scoundrels at the Griswold Auditorium from March 19-22, 2026, they were bounced back and forth deciding who really did deserve to "wear the cape".

From the opening action of the hero (Izaak Schans) and scoundrels (Lindsay Kruse and Matilda Allen) attempting to open the curtain to begin the show to their return to close the curtain, the audience was drawn into numerous scenarios where the hero might not be as good as first perceived, and the villain demonstrated acts of kindness.

For example, the "Protector" (Matt Decker) of "Precious" (Isabelle McGowan) utilized tactics that touched on mental abuse while the "Rover" (Lane Bright) was straightforward in expressing who he was and what he valued in life, or was not sure what he valued in life. "Precious" realized the importance of making up her own mind.

Kunetz's trio in the sauna flopped between being helpful to being devious faster than pancakes are flipped on a hot grill. As Bradley (Michael Troub), Spencer (Xavier Paris), and Jordan (Wyatt Tussey) revealed their true colors as businessmen, it was difficult to choose a "hero" for whom to cheer. Maybe, it is because business requires watching trends and delivering quality goods, or maybe, it is because people want to get ahead in the world and do not care who they hurt on their path to success. This selection of plays within a play uncovered some definite imperfections and desires for

Allegan Community Players' production of Heroes and Scoundrels graced the Griswold Auditorium stage on March 19-22, 2026. Photo: G. Voss

grandeur.

Taking a step back into middle or high school can always be an adventure, but when you try to relive a bit of the past, it may be enlightening in ways not expected. And who really knows his or her parents when they are teenagers? Keenan (Mason Haas) came face-to-face with a mother who he felt to be uncaring when he encountered Mrs. Handley (Amy Landsberg) and Coach Byler (Chloe Schans) in the halls of his alma mater. Was his mother the devil he knew or was she the vibrant personality who entertained the students in the cafeteria? Only the banana knows…

Whitney Ehresman (Gianna), Lacey Morton (Midge), and Kassidy Bright (Mary Pat) drew the audience into the workings of the nail salon and into characters that were not always what they seemed. The quips throughout this short brough chuckles and belly laughs from the audience as Gianna and Midge save the day for Mary Pat.

The phenomenal lighting utilized in "Ms. Berry-Berry and the Little Guy" allowed the audience into the mind of Ms. Berry-Berry (Vanessa Berry) as she attempted to repair the strained relationship between Mr. Goodman (Michael Troub) and Mr. Crumm (David Clement-Horton). Being a peacemaker takes not only training and experience but enormous amounts of patience, and even when all the elements are in play, there will be friction.

The Allegan Community Players demonstrated their development as high quality actors throughout this production. The technical pieces of scenery, lighting and sound carried the audience into an enjoyable experience of live theater. Director Kunetz and Technical Director Ryan Burza created a variety of worlds in which hero and scoundrel cross dividing lines.

Thank you to Stage Manager Brad Crawshaw and the crew, Lindsay Kruse, Venus Berrington, Matilda Allen and Izaak Schans for the seamless transitions from scene to scene and playlet to playlet.

Additional acknowledgement goes to Chaos Bright on lights, Courtney Stewart as Script Consultant, Sarah Sizemore for original music compositions, Drew Isola for set construction, seamstress Venus Berrington, hair and makeup by Anthony Bandy-Farrell, and Frances Kiraly in the Box Office.

The Allegan Community Players invite everyone to mark their calendars for May 1 – 3, 2026, for the 12th Annual One Acts Festival: Kids vs Adults, and for June 21-22, 2026, for Theater in the Park at the Mahan Park Gazebo. To become involved with ACP, check www.alleganCommunityplayers.org and catch them on FaceBook.

Dorr deputy supervisor proposal rejected

By David Schultz

Dorr Township Supervisor Jeff Miling told board colleagues Thursday night that he plans to retire in October 2027, before the completion of his four-year term.

And on another personnel front, the board rejected Miling's proposal to assign Trustee Patrick Champion to handle duties formerly associated with the deputy supervisor's job now vacant because of the retirement of Jim Martin.

Miling has been supervisor since being appointed in May 2013 to succeed the resigned Tammy VanHaitsma. He turned back electoral challenges from Trustees Patty Senneker and John Tuinstra in 2014, Senneker again in 2016 and Trustee Terri Rios in 2020.

He has guided Dorr Township through a stormy period, featuring much turmoil in the wake of a failed recall movement led by Tuinstra and Senneker.

One of the most recent controversies has come from technology giant Microsoft, which has purchased two land parcels in the township with plans to build data centers. Many Dorr residents are adamantly opposed and it shows with huge audiences at Township Board meetings over the past several months.

Some citizens have accused Miling of working secretly with Microsoft to make the project happen. Miling has insisted that attempts to stop the data centers will be futile or even costly if the issue winds up in court, where he says Dorr certainly will lose.

But the deputy supervisor controversy is even more recent.

Miling told the board that Champion has offered help with township business without pay and he has lessened the work burden for him. He suggested that Champion fill the role of deputy supervisor at a stipend of $25 an hour without the title or official recognition, in an effort to help get things done.

"Somebody should be around when I'm not here," Miling said, noting he plans to take a vacation soon.

Champion, who is retired, told board colleagues, "I'm just doing my part to help the township, but I don't want to do the work for nothing."

Champion's work career began at Hoeksema Hardware in downtown Dorr, repairing machines, and he later was a mechanic at Wayland Chrysler.

He has been doing some work for the township this year while maintenance supervisor Randy Grantham has been recovering from surgery.

"I've been on the mechanical side for 50 years," Champion said, insisting his services could be valuable to the township.

Citizen Courtney Cardosa maintained the personnel move is not following the spirit or intent of the law, rather, it tries to work around it. She said it creates conflicts of interest and lack of clarity in duties.

Newly appointed Treasurer Shiela Reitz, who said she believes it demonstrates a lack off clarity.

"I'm not opposed to having a deputy supervisor, but I'm uncomfortable with this," she said.

Miling, noting apparent opposition from Reitz, Tuinstra and Clerk Debbie Sewers, agreed to take no action on his proposal.

Rios, who was in the audience, and Tuinstra insisted the board advertise the deputy supervisor's post in the Allegan County News, on the township electronic signs and on the township's web site.

Editor's Note: This story courtesy of TownBroadcast

Mexican restaurant plan tabled by Dorr planners

By Joseph Schultz

Since the Colonial Kitchen Restaurant was sold in 2024, the Dorr community has waited with anticipation for a new Mexican restaurant to open on the site. At Tuesday's Planning Meeting, Hacienda Don Felipe Mexican Bar & Grill was to present a site plan review for the new restaurant.

The plan proposed an addition to the existing building to increase seating capacity, along with interior and exterior upgrades. The proposal also included eliminating a driveway and reconfiguring the parking lot.

However, before the plan could be presented to the commission, public comments were heard from two neighbors. Bernie Shoemaker, who lives just north of the restaurant, expressed concerns regarding not having enough parking and inadequate drainage. Shoemaker did not want the piles of snow from the parking lot melting into his property.

Neighbor Tom Powell II, of Enza's Pizza, also spoke, and said that the site plan would close the only driveway onto his property. Citing the difficulty of his customers accessing his business, Powell requested the commission reject the site plan.

Jeff Brinks, representing Hacienda Don Felipe, told the commission that after hearing these concerns, he would request that the planning commission table the review for one month. Brinks stated they would work with the neighbors to present an amended plan. Jason Derry of Professional Code Inspections (PCI) agreed that tabling the review was appropriate to allow these issues to be addressed.

After confirming that the new restaurant would hookup to the sewer system and that they would work with the Drain Commissioner regarding on-site drainage, the commission agreed to table the request. Commissioners expect to take it off the table for review at the April Planning Meeting.

Text of Ordinances Reviewed

The Planning Commission reviewed the text of a curb and gutter ordinance they have been developing and expressed satisfaction with the current draft. The ordinance would require curbs on new paved roads, but would exempt existing paved roads and paved roads that intersect with a gravel road.

Text for the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) was also reviewed. Commissioners agreed to increase the set-back from the road to 150 feet, rather than the 100 feet originally proposed.

Derry noted that on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) website, the federal government suggests that a BESS have a 330 feet setback from waterways. Commissioner Rebecca Snider suggested a 500 foot setback, citing the state of Michigan requires 500 feet for soil erosion protection.

After Derry incorporates these changes, he will forward the drafts to the township attorney for review. A public hearing on the ordinances will be held at a special planning meeting on Tuesday, March 24th.

Work on Data Center Ordinance Started

Preliminary work began on a new data center ordinance. Derry provided some sample ordinances for the commission to review. Commissioners liked the idea of including Cryptocurrency Data-mining to the ordinance.

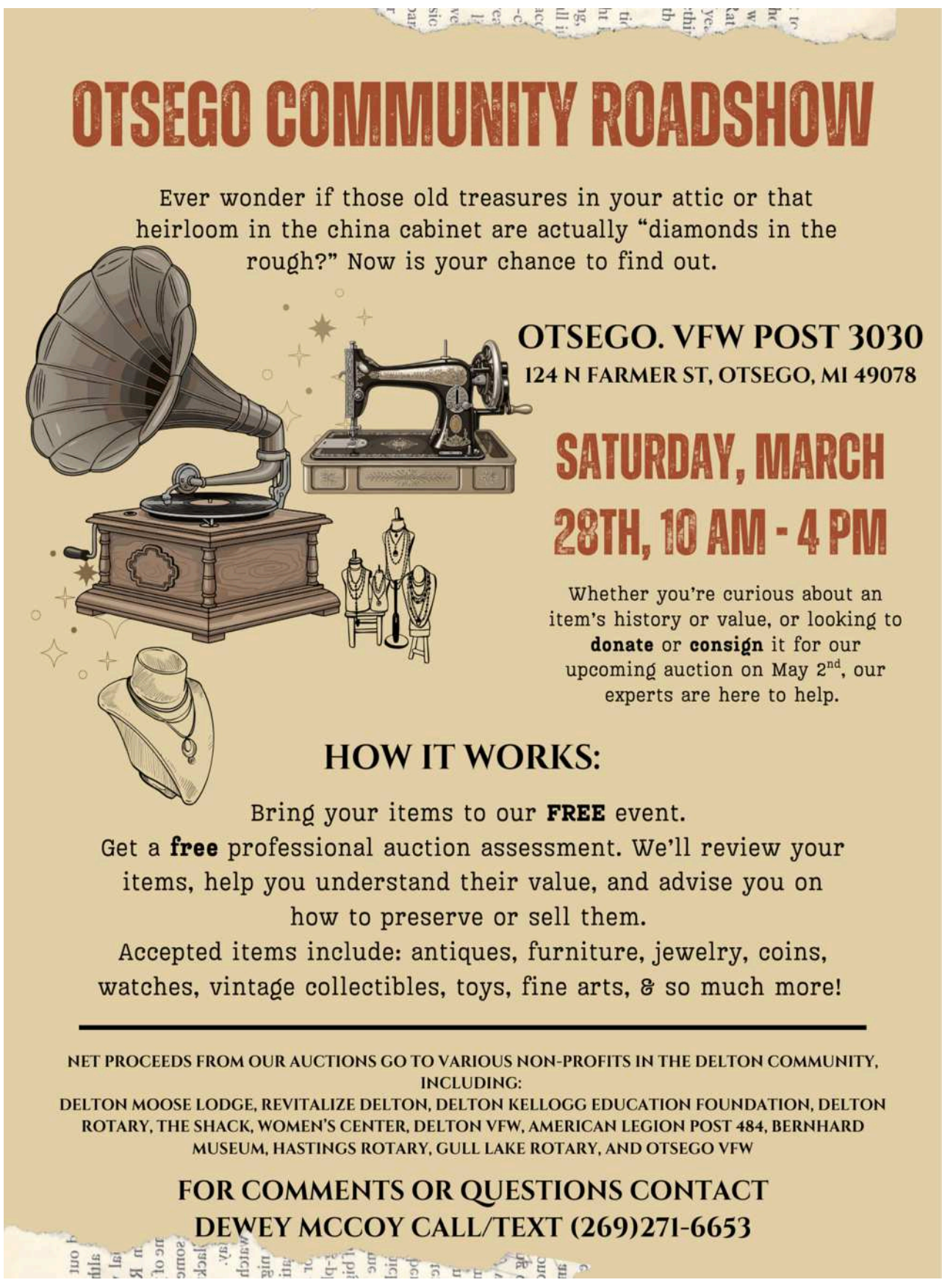
Commissioners also recommended adding decommissioning requirements to the ordinance. Furthermore, they suggested increasing application fees and escrow amounts to cover the costs of additional reports required for data center proposals.

It was agreed by the commission to review the material and work on a draft at the next planning meeting in April.

McDonald's New Plan Approved

McDonald's presented an amended site plan for approval. The original plan, that was approved last November, had two driveways from the Leppink's Shopping Center parking lot. One of those driveways was removed on the amended plan due to concerns from the shopping center management. The Planning Commission approved the amended site plan.

Editor's Note: Story courtesy of TownBroadcast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Community Events

Event information can be sent to:
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HUGE WEEKEND OF EVENTS!

Thurs., Mar. 26, 7pm, Fri., Mar. 27, 7pm, Sat., Mar. 28, 3pm & 7pm: The Lion King, Jr.. Wayland Performing Arts Center Wayland

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026, 10am-8pm: A Celebration of the Arts. Allegan High School Performing Arts Center Allegan

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026, 10am-12:30pm: Annual Egg Hunt. Hicks Park 101 Allegan St. Plainwell

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026, 10:30am-3:30pm: Seed Fair. Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026, 2-4pm: Intro to Nature Journaling. Armintrout-Milbocker Nature Preserve Thomas St. Allegan

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026, 2-4pm: Paper Plant Workshop. Tantrick Brewing Hubbard St. Allegan

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026: Last day for the Beautify Pullman Auction https://www.beautifypullman.org/.

CURRENT EVENTS

Wed., Mar. 25, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

10am: Play Café – Caregivers can enjoy a cupr of coffee while little ones play with staff.

11am: Medicare 101 w/ Jay Simons of Priority Health – Whether new of need a refresher, learn how to avoid common pitfalls. Register at https://forms.office.com/r/whq0eHQ4f7**.**

Wed., Mar. 25, 2026, 6pm: FREE Dinner and Movie
Dunningville Reformed Church 2559 M-40 North Allegan

The Dunningville Church invites all to Family Night with a FREE Dinner and Movie. The movie is *King of Kings* as the calendar moves toward Easter. For additional information, contact Dean Nevenzel at 269 377-2402.

Wed., Mar. 25, 2026, 7-9pm: Anne Frank: A History for Today
WUS Admin. Building 893 E. Superior St. Wayland

The WUPS students will guide visitors through a moving exhibit that remembers the Holocaust amd WWII from the perspective of Anne Frank and her family, plus *The Ice Cream Man*, Ernst Cahn stands against the Nazi.

Thurs., Mar. 26, 2026: Library Fun

10:30am: Preschool Storytime – 3-5 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.

6pm: History with Mark – Mark Lovett will share stories about the early settlers of the village of Allegan. Register at 269 673-4625.

Thur., Mar. 26, 2026, 11am-noon: Access to Medical Care Roundtable
MACC & the ACCF invite all organizations working to improve access to medical care to join a virtual, collaborative event to share updates and ideas, discuss challenges and barriers, and explore opportunities for partnership and coordination. Register on the alleganfoundation.org/community-calendar.

Thur., Mar. 26, 2026, 2-3pm: Healthy Housing Roundtable
MACC & the ACCF invite all organizations working on safe and sustainable housing efforts to join a virtual, collaborative event to share updates and ideas, discuss challenges and barriers, and explore opportunities for partnership and coordination. Register on the alleganfoundation.org/community-calendar.

Thurs., Mar. 26, 7pm, Fri., Mar. 27, 7pm, Sat., Mar. 28, 3pm & 7pm: The Lion King, Jr.
Wayland Performing Arts Center Wayland

Join the Wayland High School Drama students as they share the epic adventures of Simba and his struggles with responsibility. Info on ticket, email tellerc@waylandunion.org or go to https://wufactickets.ludus.com/index.php.

Fri., Mar. 27, 2026, 6pm: Polish Fest
Allegan Eagles Chestnut Allegan

Members and Guests are invited to enjoy a wonderful Polish meal followed by music at 7pm.

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026, 10am-8pm: A Celebration of the Arts
Allegan High School Performing Arts Center Allegan

Free entrance to the 4th Annual Allegan Folklife Music & Art Festival with 40+ artists, Irish dance & clogging performances, native American Pow Wow Dance workshop, guitar workshop w/Rene Meave, bands: Sarita Rose, and Great Lakes Brass, Allegan HS Symphonic Band w/Dr. Alex Wilson & the GVSU Trumpet Ensemble, the Whateferly Brothers, The Whistle Pig Parairie Dog Brass Band from Indiana, Beginners Slow Jam, Instrument Petting Zoo, and Large Advanced Jam.

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026, 10am-12:30pm: Annual Egg Hunt
Hicks Park 101 Allegan St. Plainwell

Fun for the entire family. Activities include an Egg Hunt, an Easter Walk (the story of Easter), prizes for Egg Hunt. Registration begins at 9 a.m.

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026, 10:30am-3:30pm: Seed Fair
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

The Allegan Food Alliance invites all to enjoy sharing FREE specialty or basic seeds and attending workshops on Seed Starting, Raised Bed & Container Gardening, and Soil Health. Take time to chat with educational vendors while kids do eco-crafts.

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026, 11am: Jumpstart Your Genealogy
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

Work with Megan Heyl to uncover your family past.

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026, 2-4pm: Intro to Nature Journaling
Armintrout-Milbocker Nature Preserve Thomas St. Allegan

Join SWMLC naturalist Alice Dykstra for a family-friendly intro to nature journaling. Practice observation skills on the trail through guided exercises (no artistic experience required)! Basic supplies provided; bringing your own notebook and art materials is encouraged.

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026, 2-4pm: Paper Plant Workshop
Tantrick Brewing Hubbard St. Allegan

Join Eccentric Garden to design a plant that's always alive. This plant will look stunning all year round with zero care required. Food & drink can be purchased from Tantrick.

Sat., Mar. 28, 2026, 8pm: Boom Town Band
Allegan Eagles Chestnut St. Allegan

Members and guests are welcome to enjoy the music, food and beverages.

Mon., Mar. 30, 2026, 6pm: BINGO!
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

Bring the family and enjoy the friendly competition.

Tues., Mar. 31, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

10:30am: Lapsit Storytime – 0-2 year olds can listen to stories and participate in activities.

3:30pm: Discover 4-H – 5-12 year olds can Enjoy activities with a 4-H leader.

Wed., Apr. 1, 2026, 6pm: Egg Carton Bunny Portrait
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

The Pintesting activity looks towards spring. Register at 269 673-4625.

Thurs., Apr. 2, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

10:30am: Preschool Storytime – 3-5 year olds can drop in to enjoy stories, songs, rhymes and activities.

6pm: Local Writers' Meeting – Writers of all experience levels are welcome to join a special local writers' meeting with Carol Doeringer sharing her experiences with various writing groups. Register at 269 673-4625.

Fri., Apr. 3, 2026, 7pm: Cardgo Card Game
The Eagles Chestnut St. Allegan

Members and guests can compete at Cardgo, which is like bingo, and enjoy food and friends.

Mon., Apr. 6, 2026, 10am: Splish, Splash, Stories @ AAC
Allegan Aquatic Center Allegan High School M-89 N

Bring a bathing suit and towel and enjoy silly takes and songs then splash with your family. Register at 269-673-7002 ext. 5504, or visit their website at ard.recdesk.com.

Tues., Apr. 7, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

10:30am: Lapsit Storytime – 0-2 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.

2pm: StarLab Planetarium – The Curious Kids Museum will take participants on a journey through outer space in their inflatable StarLab. All ages can register at 269 673-4625.

Wed., Apr. 8, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

11am: Teen Cookies & Canvas – 6-12 grades can register at 269 673-4625 then paint monarch butterfly.

2pm: Recess for Adults with the Arc of Allegan – Enjoy activities with individuals supported by the Arc.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

ASSISTANCE

Addiction Support Group, Thursdays 7-8pm
1900 Lincoln Road, Allegan
Come as you are.

Adventist Community Service Center
218 S. Farmer St. Otsego Tues. 10am-4pm; Thurs. 1-5pm

Clothes for the family and household goods are available, layettes for newborns, clothing, diapers, toys, etc. for babies to 6 mo. For emergency needs, call 269 694-4775 or Marlene 269 217-8293. This is supported by the 7th-Day Adventist Church and an ACCF TAG Grant.

Allegan County Community Action - Assistance for daily living
23 Water Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.communityactionallegan.org, (269) 673-5472

Food, weatherization, early childhood education.

Allegan Homeless Solutions - Helping eliminate barriers to housing.
108 Grant St., Plainwell MI 49080

www.alleganhomelesssolutions.org, Email: info@alleganhomelesssolutions.org

The Arc of Allegan County - Advocates for people with disabilities
219 Hubbard Street, Allegan 269 673-8841

Mission to advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community.

Baby Closet – Newborn Clothing and Supplies
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street Allegan
Call 269 673-2254 and leave a message.

Christian Neighbors - Food, Education, Emergency Financial Assistance
282 12th Street Plainwell MI 49080 (269) 685-4166
Monday: Drive-thru only - 10am-12pm and 4pm-6pm.
Tuesday: In person shopping/walk ins - 10am-12pm
Thursday: In person shopping/walk ins - 2pm-5pm

We have been providing services to the Plainwell, Otsego and Martin areas since 1983.

Community Clothes Closet – Free Clothing and More
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street, Allegan (269) 673-2254

Open Thursdays & Fridays, 10am – 1pm A wide selection of clothing for all ages is available.

Grief Support Groups
Wings of Hope invites all to a welcoming and compassionate gathering. 1st Monday of the month – 6-7:30pm, Wings of Hope Office, 530 Linn St., Allegan; 2nd Tues. of each month – 12:30-2pm, United Methodist Church, 322 Maple St., Hopkins; 3rd Monday of each month – 3-4:30pm, Ransom District Library, 189 S. Sherwood Ave., Plainwell; 4th Tues., Grief Support Luncheon, 1pm, Salvino's 1290 M89, Plainwell.

Interfaith Sunday Services
Mothers Trust is a nonprofit that is offering inclusive, interfaith worship services open to all Sundays at 11am at 6676 122nd Ave. Fennville. Information: Megan Hybels 269 312-0369, megan_h@motherstrust.org

Love, Inc.
Love in the Name of Christ 4621 135th Ave. Hamilton

For assistance with food, personal care items, baby needs, household items, clothing, appliances, furniture, bicycles, laundry, showers & Life Skills Wrap Around Care, call 269 751-2533. Visit www.loveincnwa.org., email: office@loveincnwa.org.

People Helping People of Pullman
Assistance by appt. 269 236-6295

Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center - Abuse Prevention and Healing
404 Sherman St., Allegan, MI 49010 www.safeharborcac.org, (269) 673-3791

St. Vincent de Paul-St. Margaret Conference - Food and More
St. Vincent de Paul 124A W. Allegan St. Otsego
Mon.: 1-3pm Tues. & Thurs: 10am to noon Wed.: 3-5pm

Food pantry and limited financial aid. Dtvincentdepaul9005@gmail.com

Serves Otsego, Plainwell and Martin School Districts

Sylvia's Place - Safe from Domestic Violence
Crisis Line: 269 673-8700

United Church of Wayland - Free Clothing
1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, 4 - 6pm
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

Wings of Hope Hospice & Palliative Care - End of Life Care
530 Linn Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.wingsofhopehospice.com, (269) 686-8659

FOOD

Allegan Food Pantry
Church of God, 1313 Lincoln Rd., Allegan
Monday: 10 am–1pm; Tues.: 2–7pm; Fri. 1-4pm Curbside Service
Contact: Phone: 269 686-6369
Deliveries are made to homebound senior citizens.

Christian Neighbors, SE
282 12th St. Plainwell 269 685-4166

Christian Neighbors, Wayland
122 Church St. Wayland 269 792-2870

Congregational Kitchen - Thursday Dinner Pickup
Congregational Church 325 Cutler Street Allegan
Call (269) 673-3139 after 3pm any Thursday and place an order.
Thursdays: Pick up 3 to 5:30 pm. Takeout dinners only during COVID-19

Epiphany Lutheran Church
4219 Park Land Dorr 616 681-0791

Food Truck - 3rd Friday of each month, 4:30 - 5:30pm
United Church of Wayland
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

The Hands of Grace Food Pantry
United Methodist Church, 409 Trowbridge St., Allegan 269 673-4236
Tuesday: 9-11:45 a.m.; Wednesday: 9-11:45 a.m. and 5-7 p.m.; Friday: 10-11:45 a.m.
Food Pantry serves FOOD to residents of Allegan 49010 w/valid ID with current address ONLY.

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 Maple St. Hopkins
269 793-7340

Hungry for Christ
4565 135th Ave. Hamilton, 269 264-1307 x1000

Ladders of Hope USA - Food Assistance
717 East Main St, Fennville, MI 49408, www.laddersofhopemi.org., 269-686-6456

Martin Area Resource Center
1445 10th St, Martin (269) 672-5605
No appointment needed. Pick up by one person per household.

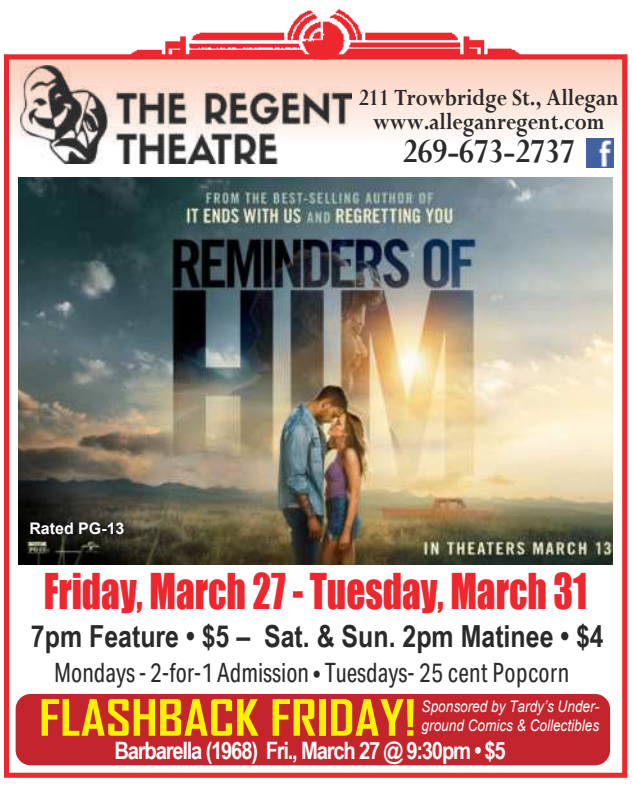
Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St. Martin 269 672-7097

Mobile Food Pantry, 2nd Monday of the Month: Drive Thru Food Distribution
Casco United Methodist Church 880 66th ST, South Haven MI 49090
Pantry items a pre-packaged. Limit - one box per vehicle.

Project Hope
1808 143rd Ave. Dorr
616 681-4673 appt. only

The Vine Food Pantry / Love, INC
Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave, Allegan, MI · (269) 673-2329

Wayland Farners Market
Apr. – Oct. Wed. & Sat.
Downtown Wayland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Friday, March 27 - Tuesday, March 31
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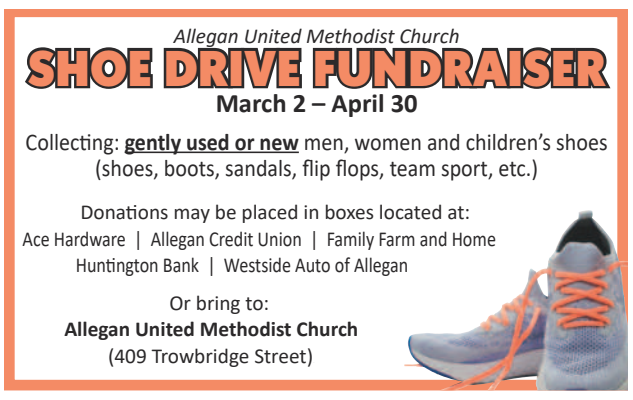
FLASHBACK FRIDAY! Sponsored by Tardy's Underground Comics & Collectibles
Barbarella (1968) Fri., March 27 @ 9:30pm • $5


Allegan United Methodist Church
SHOE DRIVE FUNDRAISER
March 2 – April 30
Collecting: gently used or new men, women and children's shoes
(shoes, boots, sandals, flip flops, team sport, etc.)
Donations may be placed in boxes located at:
Ace Hardware | Allegan Credit Union | Family Farm and Home
Huntington Bank | Westside Auto of Allegan
Or bring to:
Allegan United Methodist Church
(409 Trowbridge Street)

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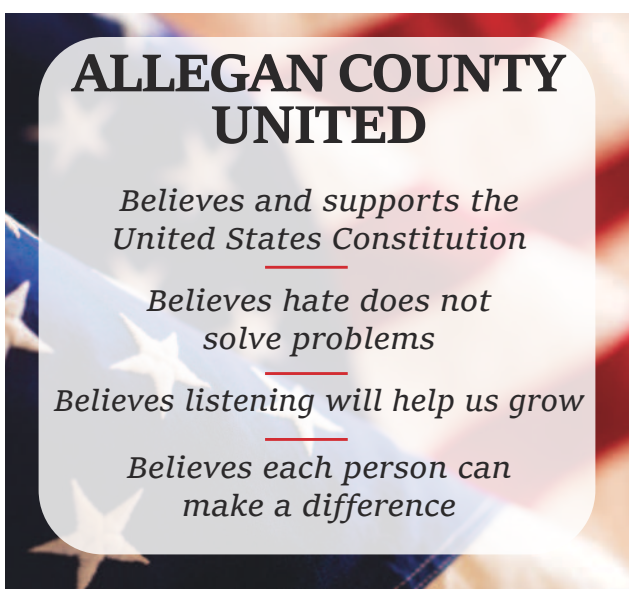

ALLEGAN COUNTY UNITED
Believes and supports the United States Constitution
Believes hate does not solve problems
Believes listening will help us grow
Believes each person can make a difference

Allegan City Council begins steps to improve Sports Complex and Griswold Auditorium

By Gari Voss

The Allegan City Council meeting on Monday, March 23, 2026, went smoothly through the basic reports and expenditures, while taking time to thoughtfully discuss necessary improvements to the Allegan Sports Complex and the Griswold Auditorium. Extra consideration was given to Leaf and Brush Cleanup days and the transition from a terminal server system to a SaaS Cloud Based System to backup city business. The questions posed were inciteful and gave the city staff direction for next steps.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tom Sive is running for the open district court judge position and shared how he would like to assist in improving the system.

Erin Dye spoke to the Art of Allegan to thank the city staff and the community supporters who gave time, talent and treasure to the fundraiser. Melanie Hooker and Traci Perrigo, who worked at planning and assisting that day along with bringing sponsorship were thanked. Dye recognized that most of the Council came in person to support the effort. A special thank you was given to Paulette Carr who assisted in the organization and implementation of the activities. In addition, thanks were given to the individuals and businesses that support the arts.

Tom Hudspeth came to ask for assistance with a neighbor who has let their house and yard go into disrepair. It has been an ongoing problem that includes the burning of garbage in their yard. He has been making improvements to his house but must look at the blight next door when enjoying outside activities. He asked the council for assistance, so he and his family could enjoy their yard.

REPORTS

Downtown Development Authority. Assistant City Manager Parker Johnson reviewed the Phase 2 construction project and the Open House for the public. The snow removal discussion turned to covering costs for 2026-2027. A survey was sent to businesses to determine what was helpful for snow removal and refuge removal.

Public Spaces Commission. Allegan Youth Baseball wanted to help create a list of improvements to the Sports Complex and were willing to assist in achieving those improvements. Peter Savage shared that Wreaths Across America will be returning in 2026. A Gold Sunshine Elm will be designated a Liberty Tree for Hanson Park

Water Utilities

Sludge Thickening Improvement. The request to approve PO 26-0851 to Erhardt Construction in the amount of $2,004,629 for the Sludge Thickening Improvements Project to be located at the City of Allegan's Water Resource Recovery Facility passed. The project improves the ability to handle waste that comes from the city and tankers. This should reduce the costs for sludge reception and continue the intake of industrial waste which is mainly food waste that is about 25% of the intake. By moving biosolids out, any odor should be reduced. It is possible that the use of blowers will be reduced and that reduction will lower the electric bills even more than is already being done. This should be a ten year return on investment, and the new improvement should last 20 years.

Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project. The request to approve PO 26-0852 to Insituform Technologies in the amount of $679,723 for the Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project was passed. The lining should improve the life of the sewer lines along Marshall and Water Streets. If the Rossman Park mains were replaced, they would have to dig about 30 feet deep. Lining the interior of the pipe would reinforce the pipes for about 50 years. The cost for new pipes would cost millions of dollars compared to lining at hundreds of thousands.

Public Works

Allegan Sports Complex. City Manager Dye and Allegan Youth Baseball Leadership reviewed the needs of the ball diamonds in the park. A discussion regarding proposed improvements to the Allegan Sports Complex brought the council members into the loop. The Allegan City Charter includes maintaining public property. The Sports Complex has been owned by the city since the late 1990s and is considered a city park. The park is used by the city along with residents and groups from area townships, so Allegan Township was approached to request assistance with the improvements and upkeep. The Allegan Township Board declined assistance but offered $12,500 for a new tractor. In reviewing the complete list of improvements, City Manager Joel Dye shared that this is truly a Regional Park. The nine improvements listed totaled about $39,500, but the Youth Baseball representative focused in on only half of the items. Other sports have been approached for assistance, but at this time, only Allegan Youth Baseball has approached the city.

Allegan Youth Baseball had a meeting and felt that the yellow fence caps are needed ($2,500), the scoreboards would be helpful because the current scoreboards are outdated and can't be repaired, but this was not a priority ($16,000). Field 6 no longer needs the longer base paths. Fields 1 and 3 require scalping ($11,000) and Field 4 requires Diamond Dust to remove dangers ($2,500). An underground electrical service to the pitcher mound for tee ball would be important ($3,000). At this point, Dye is looking for guidance from the Council to determine how best to maintain the park. The question was raised whether Allegan Youth Baseball would be able to apply for grants to assist with improvements. At this point, AYB could make a contribution, but the amount is unknown. The staff feels that the city could contribute $12,500 as a maximum at this time. That would leave about $3,500 from other groups to cover just the beginning improvements.

The Complex is not within the city limits and was constructed by a grassroots group. The question was raised as to how to get support from the original promoters. How can the city get support from other townships and groups who use the facilities? What seems important at this time is getting groups involved with the upkeep of the fields along with the long-term maintenance and operation of the park. The city does mow, weed whack, do mole control, and provide normal facility maintenance.

The council passed a motion for a budget transfer of $12,500 to begin addressing the improvements to the park and work toward setting a plan for covering future costs.

Brush and Leaf Pick-up. Johnson and Public Works Director Jeff Morrey facilitated a review and discussion regarding the leaf and brush pickup program offered by the City of Allegan. There are two DPW workers who monitor the streets for four weeks in the spring and eight weeks in the fall along with one day a month during summer months. The proposal is to keep the spring and fall pickups but drop the monthly pickups. The Council felt that people could call for pickup and pay a basic price for the service during the summer. The city staff will construct a fee program and bring it back to the Council.

Allegan Dam Improvement Update. A review and discussion regarding the status of the Allegan Dam Improvements led to directing City Manager Dye to request a meeting with federal and state officials regarding the cleanup of the Kalamazoo River. Since receiving the million dollar grant from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE), the requirements for permits and adjustments to install temporary improvements slowed progress. There is a fear that the EPA is not taking out the amount of sediment from behind the Trowbridge Dam as was originally believed. City Manager Dye asked for permission from the Council to send a letter to the EPA regarding their plans for cleaning the area upstream of the Trowbridge and the Allegan City Dams to avoid future problems.

Salt Purchase. The request to approve the budget for the Winter 2026/2027 Road Salt Purchase for $30,600 passed. At this time, there is a good surplus to allow for a smaller purchase.

Beet Juice Purchase. The request to approve the budget for the Winter 2026/2027 Beet Juice Purchase for $7,425 passed.

Administrative Services

Payables. The request to approve accounts payable in the amount of $136,541.38 and payroll in the amount of $145,746.35 for a total disbursement of $282,287.73 passed.

Going to the Cloud. The request to approve PO 26-0853 to BSA, INC in the amount of $76,350 for the conversion of the City's Local Government Software from a terminal server system to a SaaS Cloud Based System passed. The current system is now outdated, so the conversion from a terminal server system to a cloud based system is necessary. The cost is anticipated to be less than the .net system currently in use. The concern was to have another backup system other than BS&A in case the cloud system should go down.

Special Assessment Roll. The adoption of Resolution 26.11 to schedule a public hearing on the City's Single Lot Assessment Roll passed. This is for property owners and residents who do not mow or care for their property, so the city workers must maintain the parcel. A fee for services will be added to the owner's tax bill.

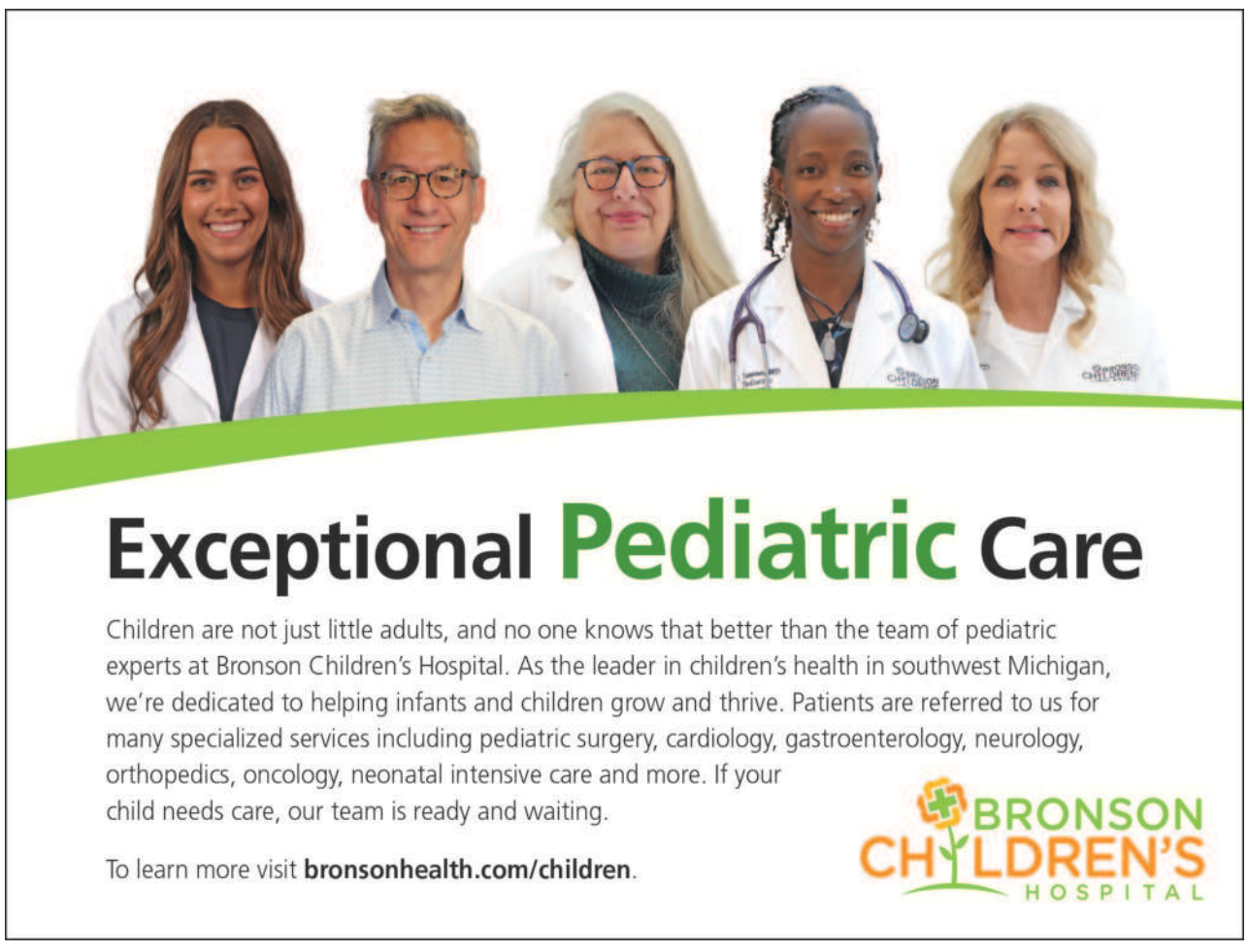
Griswold Improvement Project. The review and discussion regarding the Griswold Auditorium allowed the Council to consider improvements to the first floor lounge, an additional ADA bathroom, and the external entrance along with installing a new sign. The anticipated cost would be $304,350. The secured amount available at this time is $240,777. City Manager Dye requested that the Council approve a Design Build with the architect or do an RFP to see if any other company would be interested in doing a Design Build. Considering the support of the community, Dye felt it important that action be taken soon to begin making improvements. The question was raised regarding the 2021 Abonmarche Study to make sure that the current projects are properly addressing the 2021 findings. The final agreement was to prepare an RFP for a Design Build for the Marilla Lounge and an additional ADA restroom. Other pieces will be addressed in the future.

Agenda Format. City Manager Dye reviewed new Agenda items for the Allegan City Council Meetings. Included would be Item 7: the Acceptance of Gifts and Item 12: Written Petitions and Recommendations from the Public for presentations that are expected to take longer than 3 minutes. The Council felt it would be important to inform the public of the process for item 12. The city manager will bring suggestions to the Council.

ROUNDTABLE

Thanks were given to all who assisted with the Art of Allegan. A question came with changes in the process for city cleanups and how to inform the residents. The parting question was: Is it possible to get public input for such issues as the park improvements?

The meeting ended with many puzzle pieces left to be aligned.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Scrap current system if we can't figure out how to pay TSA agents

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX
■ PUBLISHER ■

This logjam that has TSA agents not being paid is absurd. We are now going on week 5 and those providing security at the nation's airports-our TSA agents haven't been paid. That's because they are beholden on Congress to fund their paychecks and because of the partial government shutdown due to Republicans or Democrats willing to compromise, they don't get paid.

Last weekend Elon Musk offered to pay them. What a generous offer, but even that seemingly innocent gesture has one side of the aisle up in arms.

My suggestion is that we lock Thune, Schumer and other Senate leaders in a room and don't let them out until they can compromise and end this partial shutdown. Do not provide food. Do not provide drink other than water. Let them talk face to face across from the table to one another instead of making unrealistic demands to reporters.

If this doesn't work then I would try something drastic.

The ongoing strain on the Transportation Security Administration workforce—manifesting in long lines, inconsistent screening times, and frustrated travelers—has exposed a deeper issue: a one-size-fits-all federal bureaucracy trying to manage a dynamic, high-pressure environment that varies wildly from airport to airport.

So here's a more disruptive idea—one that will make some uncomfortable, but deserves serious consideration: privatize airport security, and make screeners employees of the airlines themselves.

At first glance, that sounds radical. But step back and think about incentives.

Right now, TSA employees answer to Washington. Their performance is judged through layers of bureaucracy, union rules, and federal oversight. But airlines? They live and die by efficiency, customer experience, and on-time departures. If security screening became their responsibility, delays wouldn't just be an annoyance, they'd be a direct hit to the bottom line.

That changes everything.

Airlines would have every reason to fully staff checkpoints, invest in better technology, and streamline processes. A backed-up security line wouldn't be blamed on "the government"—it would be their problem to solve immediately. Competition could even drive innovation, as airlines and airports look for faster, safer, and more customer-friendly ways to move people through screening.

There is precedent for this kind of model. Through the TSA's own Screening Partnership Program, some U.S. airports already use private contractors under federal oversight. Internationally, many countries rely on private or semi-private screening systems that function efficiently without sacrificing safety.

Of course, this idea comes with real concerns.

Security is not the same as baggage handling or boarding procedures. It's a core national security function. Handing that responsibility—even partially—to private employers raises questions about consistency, training, and accountability. The last thing anyone wants is a race to the bottom on safety in the name of cutting costs.

But privatization doesn't have to mean deregulation.

The federal government could and should still set strict security standards, conduct audits, and enforce compliance. Think of it as shifting operations, not abandoning oversight. Airlines would execute; the government would regulate. Fail to meet the standard? Lose the contract, face penalties, or worse.

And let's be honest: the current system isn't exactly immune to inconsistency either.

In fact, one of the biggest frustrations travelers face today is the unpredictability. Some airports run smoothly; others feel like gridlock. A decentralized, performance-driven model could actually bring more accountability, not less.

There's also a workforce question. Transitioning TSA employees into airline or contractor roles would need to be handled carefully, with protections for pay, benefits, and job security. The goal isn't to punish workers, it's to empower a system that lets them succeed in a more responsive environment.

At its core, this debate isn't about ideology. It's about results.

If Washington can't fix the staffing and efficiency problems plaguing airport security, then alternatives should be on the table. Whether it's locking lawmakers in a room until they compromise, entertaining outside financial support from figures like Elon Musk, or rethinking the structure entirely through privatization, the message should be clear: doing nothing is no longer acceptable.

Air travel is too important to the economy, to national security, and to everyday Americans to be held hostage by dysfunction.

If privatizing TSA operation leads to shorter lines, better service, and maintained safety, then it's not a radical idea.

It's a practical one whose time may have come.

Life as Performance Art

G CORWIN STOPPEL

During that brief splat of warm weather earlier this month, I noticed a neighbor had accessorized several trees with small metal buckets, covered with a piece of metal, just underneath a metal tube attached to the tree.

I knew from experience he was collecting the sap from a few maples to be slowly cooked down until it was maple syrup.

A couple of years ago he told me he got started during the great Covid pandemic shutdown. The experiment that gave him something to do and was a reason to get out of the house. He said he could get anywhere from a couple quarts to a gallon each spring.

It would be cheaper just to buy a bottle from the store than making his own, "but I like to tap into the old ways once in a while," he said.

The Canadians like their syrup to the point it seems obsessive. We have all seen their national flag with its bright red maple leaf front and center.

Canada's first national anthem, "The Maple Leaf Forever," paid tribute to their beloved tree. The Toronto Maple Leafs National Hockey League team is named in the tree's honor, along with many other products. The maple leaf is proudly displayed on some of their higher-denomination coins.

Maple syrup producers in Quebec have their own strategic reserves. Think of it in terms of the strategic oil reserves, only much smaller and far more sticky. When it is a very good year for syrup, the excess is put into the reserve for when it might be needed in a less-abundant year.

It is also a good method to maintain price stability so the producers can stay in business. Canada has a long history of creating strategic reserves for such commodities as wheat, eggs and milk.

There are three heavily guarded maple syrup depots in Quebec, with a combined capacity of 133 million pounds, enough to fill over 50 full sized Olympic swimming pools. All the syrup is stored in tightly-sealed 55-gallon drums.

Even best attempts to keep valuable safes under lock and key don't always work. Somehow between 2006 and 2018, someone or ones with very sticky fingers made off with a lot of syrup.

The 2006 first heist saw an estimated 1,000 55-gallon barrels vanish. The syrup producers and insurance company wanted to keep this national prestige-destructive scandal on the QT, so it was not reported until later.

There were more thefts in 2011. For several years Mother Nature had been generous, and thousands of barrels were filled and put into storage. Somehow some were tapped and drained but left in place. Security patrols looked at the warehouses, assumed all was in place and they moved on.

It wasn't until 2011, when the harvest had been low, that it was decided to keep prices stable by releasing and selling off some of the reserves.

The surprise came when workers shifted the barrels onto forklifts and realized they were y empty. In all, some 9,000 barrels had mysteriously been drained. Depots started installing cameras, motion detectors and better night-watch security people.

The stolen syrup itself was moved to the black market, and bootleggers smuggled it across the border to Vermont and New Hampshire. There was good reason: both states also relied on maple syrup and products to boost their revenues and employment. Both states had also suffered low sap harvests, so the thieves made a tidy profit.

Elsewhere, several hundred empty barrels were discovered on backroads between Quebec and secret smugglers' coves in New Brunswick. It was believed they were put onto freighters and taken to Europe.

In 2012 the Mounties, as always, got their men when the maple syrup heist boys were rounded up, arrested, charged and sent to prison.

The final (for now) chapter in the Great Maple Syrup caper was written in 2024 with a television show called "The Sticky." Amazon underwrote the costs, but it had only six episodes. Even "Queen of Scream" Jamie Lee Curtis could not stir up enough interest in a one-trick pony show.

Today a few states in northern New England and areas of Canada produce maple syrup on a fairly large scale, not only filling little glass and plastic jars, but a variety of candies sold in the area and across the country. The Vermont County Store catalog lists many.

The larger producers now rely on rubber or plastic hoses, pumps and siphons to get sap from trees into the big containers. Tractors, rather than horse-drawn sleds, take hundreds of gallons of sap to boiling sheds, where it is converted into pure syrup. Natural gas cookers have replaced wood fires and computers monitor everything in the name of efficiency.

Here in Michigan and the upper Midwest, maple sap has been tapped and converted into syrup since pioneer days. The reason was simple: There were maple trees, the pioneers knew how to tap and boil the sap and. compared to sugar that had to be imported, it was free.

My great grandfather and his family tapped the maples on their homestead, getting about 10 to 20 gallons of sap from each of the older trees and less from the smaller. younger ones. Think of it in terms of giving blood at a blood drive: it doesn't do you any harm, and being tapped doesn't harm the trees. It takes about 10 gallons of sap to make a quart of syrup.

They emptied tap buckets once or twice a day

Each day, sometimes once or twice a day, emptied their tap buckets into larger pails and took them on horse-drawn sleighs up to an area outside the barn, where it was poured into a large cauldron set over a fire. Endless hours were devoted to stirring and watching the pot to make sure it did not get too hot and spoil.

Our family put its hoard of maple syrup into Red Wing Pottery jars and stored it in the manmade cave on the land that had been their first home.

Today historical societies in our area maintain old practices so children can see and learn how it was done back in the "good old days" that are better in nostalgia than real life.

At medical centers concerted research has begun, seeking possible medical uses for maple sap through the "One Team, One Health" project. Michigan's UP is the perfect site because it has more maple trees than New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine combined. Scientists and physicians are looking at the benefits of drinking maple sap water for cancer survivors.

Koreans some time ago discovered that maple sap and water contains many of the same electrolytes needed by cancer patients in recovery, but because it is all natural, without the nasty side effects.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Overwhelming Cost Of Cancer

Dear Editor:

In the summer of 2018, I was diagnosed with stage four Mantle Cell Lymphoma. This is a rare blood cancer that is incurable but very treatable. The cancer remained stable and quiet until August of 2023. At that time, I had to begin strong doses of chemo as well as immune therapy (IVIG). I was told I would need three years of treatment. The copay cost for us was $110 for the chemo portion and $525 for the immune therapy. That is a heavy financial burden to bear but we figured at the end of the three years, treatment would be done, and we could make some headway with what we owed.

When I saw my cancer doctor in January of this year, he told me I would not be done this summer, the IVIG would be for the rest of my life, meaning a co-pay of $525 per month. That is an expense no one can afford on Social Security. In desperation, I went to the internet. I knew I would have to find another option or stop treatment which would eventually take my life. After about two weeks, I received a phone call from AmeriPharma in California and they said they could help me and they have. Getting started takes a couple of months, but they kept in touch with me every step of the way. The registered nurse comes to my home to do the infusion. All supplies, materials and medications are shipped FedEx to my home. The nurse stays the entire time the infusion is being done (about 2 ½ hours), constantly monitoring my blood pressure, oxygen levels, temperature, and asking if I am feeling okay. The nurse is professional in every way, even much more so than when I would receive treatment at the clinic.

At the clinic they would start the infusion and then I would press a button to let them know I was finished with not much contact in between unless I buzzed for them. And what's my cost for this in-home infusion - $0.00. Not one cent. Priority Health considers this service as in-network and I have no out of pocket costs. Medicare refused to pay for the in-home infusion.

If you are facing this kind of situation, get in touch with AmeriPharma. They are a God send for us and an answer to much prayer. They may be able to help you too.

Carol Mollett
Fennville

The Allegan COUNTY NEWS

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Allegan, MI 49010-0189 (269) 673-5534
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Published weekly by The Allegan County News. R. Michael Wilcox publisher. Subscriptions: $55 per year in county; $55 per year in Michigan; $70 out of state; Foreign rates upon request. Periodicals postage paid at Allegan, MI 49010. Postal Publication No. 013-700. Postmaster: Send address corrections to The Allegan County News, P.O. Box 189, Allegan, MI 49010-0189.

Otsego & Plainwell UNION ENTERPRISE

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Published weekly by The Union Enterprise. R. Michael Wilcox publisher. Subscriptions: $55 per year in Allegan County. $55 in Michigan; $70 out of state. Periodicals postage paid at Allegan, MI 49010 and at additional mailing office Postal Publication No. 413600. Postmaster: Send address corrections to Union Enterprise, P.O. Box 189, 241 Hubbard St., Allegan MI 49010

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Obituaries

Timothy "Tim" Cloud

Timothy "Tim" Cloud, peacefully passed away at Rose Arbor in Kalamazoo, Michigan on February 19, 2026, surrounded by his loving family.

Born on March 3,1952 in South Haven, Michigan, Tim was the son of Mildred Stafford and John A. Cloud. He was a man known for his sense of humor, his warm heart, and dedication to family. Tim loved coaching young athletes, and he had a natural ability to make friends wherever he went.

Tim was Sherry's beloved husband of 46 years. Together, they shared a life full of love, laughter, and adventures. Tim was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and uncle who cherished his time with family. One of his greatest joys was beating his nephews at a game of basketball. If they ever got close to beating him, he would talk trash and throw them off their game and then laugh about beating them.

Throughout his life, Tim enjoyed hunting and fishing, basketball, being with family, and helping others. Tim was a gifted athlete. At Bangor High School,

Timothy "Tim" Cloud

he was awarded All- State Honors in both football and basketball. During his college days Tim was selected as All- American in basketball. He worked for years as an autobody professional owning his own shop named "Colors," in Plainwell, Mi. for many years. Tim and his brother-in-law Elton started Jazzy's Catering, cooking Creole food at summer festivals around southwest Michigan. Tim ended his working life at Sam's Club where fellow employees called him, "The Mayor" because so many customers would come in and ask for him. He was highly respected and liked by his colleagues. Through the years, Tim coached softball and later girls' high school basketball in Lawton and girls AAU where he was loved for his humility, guidance, and encouragement.

He is survived by his loving wife, Sherry; their daughters, Jasmine and India Cloud, grandchildren; Isabella, Brielle and Gianni; brothers, John Yelding, Walter Cloud, Cameron Cloud, Jim Cloud and sisters, Vivian Cloud and Jackie Smith; aunts, Velma (Stafford) Cloud and Erma Stafford-Chastine; his best friends and beloved brothers-in-laws, David Thomas (Holly) and Elton Thomas (Katherine). He leaves behind cousins, nieces, and nephews that he loved deeply to cherish his memory.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Mildred Stafford, his father, John A. Cloud, a brother, Clifford Henry Stafford and his aunt, Phillis Stafford.

A celebration of Tim's life will be held at Christ Community Church, 3370-113th Ave. Allegan, Michigan 49010 on April 25th. The family will be available from 11:30am-12:00pm prior to the memorial service that will start at noon. He will be buried at Rowe Cemetery in Cheshire Township. The Repass will immediately follow the burial.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Bangor Alumni Foundation or to Fox Music Center in Kalamazoo in memory of Tim.

Friends and family are invited to share memories and condolences on the Gorden Funeral Home tribute website.

Edna Renee (Arms) Oldebeken

Edna Renee (Arms) Oldebeken, 59, Oil Spring KY, formerly of Shelbyville MI, passed away Tuesday, March 17, 2026 at the Jordan Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center, Louisa KY, after an extended illness.

Born May 11, 1966 in Paintsville, KY she was the daughter of the late Buel Keith Arms, Sr. and Edna Earle (Baldwin) Arms. She was also preceded in death by two brothers, Buel Keith Arms, Jr. and John Morris Arms.

Edna Renee is survived by one son, James Brian Oldebeken, Oil Springs KY; a sister, Sherry Jane Picklesimer, Oil Springs KY; one brother, Jerry Wayne Arms and his wife Deborah, Wayland MI; two sister-in-laws, Teresa Arms, Martin MI and Bonnie Arms, Wayland MI.

Edna Renee Oldebeken

Also surviving are nephews, Francis L. Shane (Carey) Picklesimer, Ponte Vedra FL; Clinton (Christine) Arms, Byron Center MI; Justin (Waraporn) Arms, Grand Rapids MI; Jacob (Michelle) Arms, Hartford MI; Evan John Arms, Three Rivers MI. Several great-nephews and great-nieces as well as many friends and relatives also survive.

Also surviving is one close, dear niece, Katherine Marie (Kevin) Brenner, Shelbyville, MI; and Edna Renee's longtime friend of over 40 years, Joy Sausaman, Plainwell, MI.

There will be no public viewing or funeral service at this time. Edna Renee's ashes will be interred beside her mother in the Baldwin Cemetery, Oil Springs, KY at a future time yet to be determined. Condolences, cards, and memories may be sent to:
167 Old Baldwin Place, Oil Springs, KY.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Phelps and Son Funeral Home, Paintsville, Ky

Mary Jane Fulton

Mary Jane Fulton, age 88, passed away on Sunday March 15, 2026, at Bronson Methodist Hospital surrounded by her family. She was born in Muskegon on May 30, 1937, to Oscar and Regis (Mongeau) Lofquist.

Growing up in Muskegon, Michigan and South Bend, Indiana, Mary graduated from Riley High School in South Bend, later earning her bachelor's degree in education from Western Michigan University. She was an elementary teacher at Muskegon, Flat Rock, and later at Allegan Public Schools for a total of 30 years.

In March of 1973, she met her soulmate Robert Fulton at a social gathering in Otsego. They were married on October 26th that year, shaping a blended family with six children whom they raised in their Allegan home. Bob and Mary lived together in the same home for 50 years while also spending the winter months at their second home in El Mirage, Arizona for 25 years. In 2023, they decided to downsize and moved to a condominium in Kalamazoo. Bob and Mary also enjoyed

Mary Jane Fulton

years of traveling together with some of their favorite places being Lake Charlevoix and El Mirage, where they made great friends.

Mary was well-known for her "enthusiasm unknown to mankind" for University of Michigan sports, especially football and basketball, and for her love of dogs. She cared for many dogs over the years, most of which were miniature dachshunds, and they all adored her.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents; her son Jeff Ainsworth; son-in-law Dave Salik; and grandson Quinn Robinson.

Surviving are her husband of 52 years, Bob Fulton; her children: Deb (Dean) Wintjen, Sue (Brian) Robinson, and Ted (Sarah) Ainsworth; daughter-in-law, Nan Ainsworth; step-children: Jim Fulton and Jackie (Matt) McKeon; grandchildren: Sarah (Sam Perry) Salik, Katie (Josh) Ruihley, Brooke Ainsworth, Aaron (Lisa) Ainsworth, Lauren (Luke) Olmstead, Taylor Robinson, Allison (Kelly) Carns, Kaitlyn (Aaron) Clemens, Ellen Haist, Jess (Paul) Knoepke, Stephen (Janaya) McKeon; and 21 adored great-grandchildren.

A private family gathering will take place on her birthday.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Kalamazoo Animal Rescue, 4669 Executive Dr, Portage, MI 49002.

To share a memory or leave a condolence for the family visit https://www.langelands.com.

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Food Alliance returns with Seed Fair and workshops

By Gari Voss

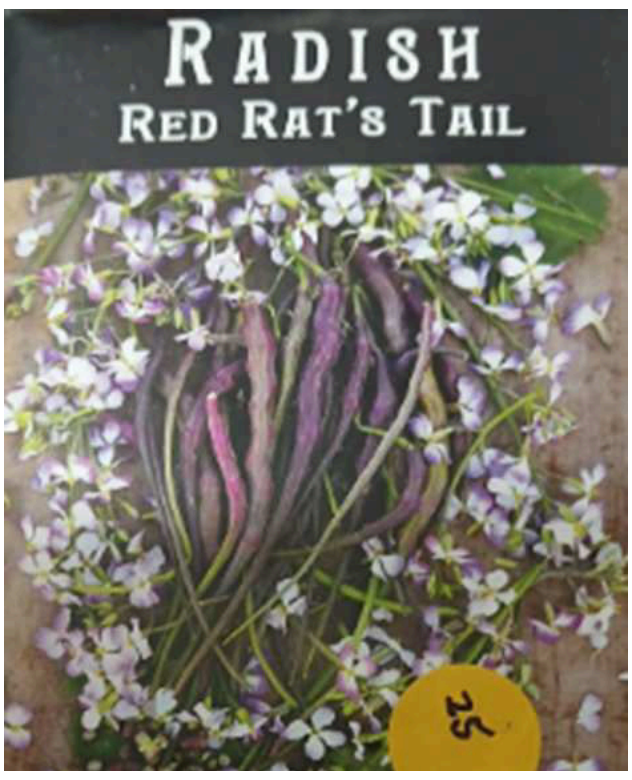
The smell of Spring is in the air, snowdrops and crocuses have broken through the winter crust along with some hardy daffodils to show their colorful blossoms. The Lenten Roses are displaying their dusty mauve petals. That means it is time for the Seed Fair sponsored by the Allegan Food Alliance. On Saturday, March 28, 2026, from 10:30am – 3:30pm, the Allegan District Library will provide space for gardening workshops, conversations, and the exchange of FREE seeds.

The day will begin at 10:30am with the opening ceremony. At 11am, the Seed Exchange will begin. Many of the seeds are quite rare and unusual while others are old favorites.

"Last year at our Seed Fair, community member Jennifer Beckett picked up a packet of Red Rat's Tail Radish," explained Mary Colborn of the Allegan Food Alliance. "This isn't your typical radish. Instead of growing underground, it produces long, crunchy, spicy seed pods that you can eat fresh, cook, or even pickle. It's a unique South Asian delicacy, and a great conversation starter in any garden!"

Workshops begin at 12:30pm with Seed Starting & Garden Basics. At 1:30pm, participants will explore Raised Bed & Container Gardening. The final workshop on Soil Health will begin at 2:30pm.

Throughout the day, information table conversations will cover not only seeds but growing techniques and soil health. Whether a person is a brand new gardener or has years of experience, there will be something of interest.



For those who attend the Seed Fair or are not able to participate in person, the Allegan Food Alliance asks everyone, whether a producer or consumer, to participate in their survey that will bring information regarding Allegan County's food system. The survey takes less than 10 minutes and will help shape food access across Allegan County, future programs and resources, and how to create a stronger, more resilient local food system. The survey is available at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AFA-CTTT2025.

"This work is about more than food – it's about building a community where everyone has access to healthy, affordable food and the opportunity to grow and share," stated Colborn. "Together, we're building a county where our food system is truly community-driven, resilient, and rooted in care."

PUBLIC NOTICE
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
2026 GRAND REGION HERBICIDE PROGRAM

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) hereby provides notice to the public, including property owners adjacent to state highways, of the 2026 Herbicide Application Program treatments for roadside rights of way within Mason, Lake, Osceola, Oceana, Newaygo, Mecosta, Muskegon, Montcalm, Ottawa, Kent, Ionia, Allegan, and Barry counties.

SCHEDULED DATES OF APPLICATION:
Applications will take place between April 1, 2026, and December 1, 2026.

HERBICIDES/LOCATIONS:
Non-Selective Applications: (guardrail, pavement/shoulder cracks and edges, barrier walls, concrete bridge slopes, invasive plants) ANY INDIVIDUAL OR COMBINATIONS OF THE HERBICIDES LISTED BELOW:
Roundup Pro Concentrate (Glyphosate), **Method 240SL** (Aminocyclopyrachlor), **Milestone** (Aminopyralid), **Escort XP** (Metsulfuron Methyl), **Esplanade 200 SC** (Indaziflam), **Polaris** (Isopropylamine Salt of Imazapyr), **Telar XP** (Chlorsulfuron), **Aquamaster/Roundup Custom** (Glyphosate).

Selective Applications: (broadleaf weeds in turf areas, brush control, plant growth regulator, invasive plants) ANY INDIVIDUAL OR COMBINATIONS OF THE HERBICIDES LISTED BELOW:
Milestone (Aminopyralid), **Escort XP** (Metsulfuron Methyl), **Telar XP** (Chlorsulfuron), **Vastlan** (Triclopyr Choline, Acetic Acid, Choline Salt), **Garlon 4 Ultra** (Triclopyr-2-Butoxyethyl Ester), **Plateau** (Imazapic), **Method 240SL** (Aminocyclopyrachlor), **TerraVue** (Aminopyralid, Florpyrauxifen-Benzyl), **HighNoon** (Aminopyralid, Florpyrauxifen-benzyl), **Garlon 3A** (Triclopyr).

METHOD OF APPLICATION:
Applications may be terrestrial, applied by vehicular-mounted fixed boom or hand spray gun equipment; or aerial drone applications. The herbicides will be tank-mixed or directly injected for each application.

RE-ENTRY RESTRICTIONS:
Do not enter treated areas until the spray has dried.

CONTACT:
All applications will be made by certified pesticide applicators. For further information, contact:

Tom Kitcey, Resource Specialist
Michigan Department of Transportation
1420 Front Ave., N.W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
616-558-8084

This notice is published per Regulation 637 Act No. 451, Public Acts of 1994, as amended.

NOTICE
OF PUBLIC HEARING
City of Allegan

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Allegan, Michigan, shall on April 13, 2026, at 6:00 PM, at the City Council Chambers, Allegan City Hall 231 Trowbridge Street, Allegan, Michigan, hold a public hearing for the purpose of reviewing the 2026 Special Assessment Roll as listed below:

Parcel #	Service Address	Total Assessment	Description of Service
51-350-071-00	248 Parkway St	$ 102.78	Mowing
51-360-044-00	47 Wayne St	$ 102.78	Mowing
51-205-029-00	142 Brady	$ 8.11	Garbage
51-205-029-00	142 Brady	$ 8.11	Garbage
51-205-029-00	142 Brady	$ 8.11	Garbage
51-205-029-00	142 Brady	$ 8.11	Garbage
51-205-029-00	142 Brady	$ 7.85	Garbage
51-305-126-00	322 S Cedar St	$ 102.78	Mowing
51-280-005-00	158 Hill St	$ 474.38	New Meter
51-170-072-00	319 Russell St	$ 102.78	Mowing
51-285-005-00	223 North St	$ 102.78	Mowing
51-305-013-00	141 Brady St	$ 129.51	Garbage
51-305-013-00	141 Brady St	$ 131.68	Garbage
51-305-013-00	141 Brady St	$ 133.45	Garbage
51-305-013-00	141 Brady St	$ 133.45	Garbage
51-305-013-00	141 Brady St	$ 133.45	Garbage
51-305-013-00	141 Brady St	$ 133.45	Garbage
51-305-013-00	141 Brady St	$ 129.51	Garbage
51-305-013-00	141 Brady St	$ 129.51	Garbage
51-205-014-00	128 Hubbard St	$ 19.63	Garbage
51-205-014-00	128 Hubbard St	$ 19.63	Garbage
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51-390-004-00	633 Marshall St	$ 102.78	Mowing
51-250-016-00	646 grand St	$ 134.40	Mowing
51-280-098-00	201 Race St	$ 102.78	Mowing
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At that time and place, the City Council shall hear and consider comments, concerns, statements, information, or other communications concerning the 2026 Special Assessment Roll. Please send all written comments to the address listed below.

Tracy Stull, City Clerk
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RELIGION SECTION

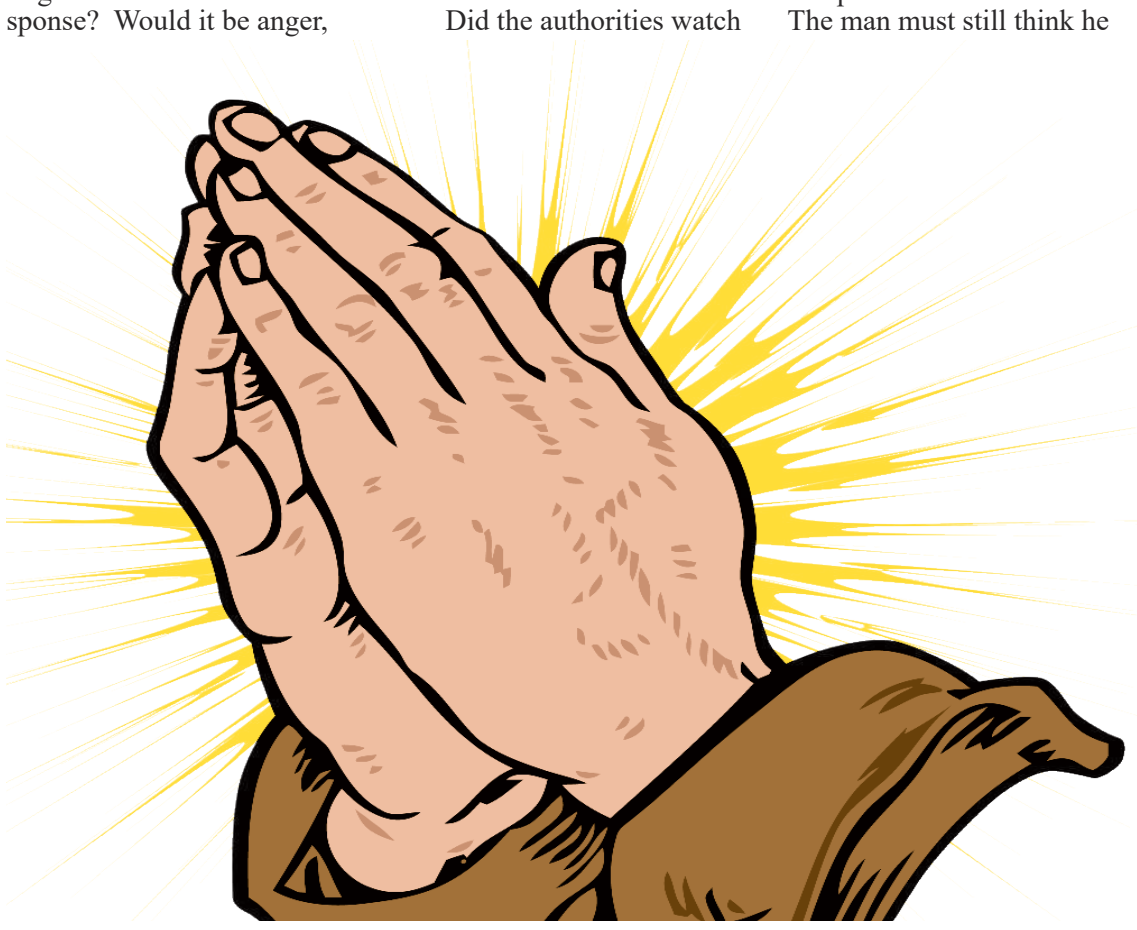
A Sunday school teacher was having a difficult time explaining Palm Sunday to his students. Finally, he asked if the youngsters enjoyed parades. They suddenly came alive and were loudly talking about the fun of a parade. "Well, now you understand Palm Sunday. It was like a parade." The children suddenly had at least some insight into this holy day on the Christian calendar. They would build on it in the years to come.

As with so many somewhat different ideas about passages in the Bible, at first this one about parades was disquieting. It seemed almost flippant. Then, as happens to so many of us when we are thinking about the verses, we ask, "But what if?"

We know what Jesus did that day, but there is very little about what he said. What if Jesus was slightly embarrassed or bemused by the over-the-top enthusiasm of the people in Bethany and even his own disciples? What if the disciples, perhaps worn out by all of the events of the previous weeks, rolled their eyes and asked, "Now what?" Would that have changed anything? I seriously doubt it.

Or, what if the watchmen on the towers of the Temple saw this odd little procession coming closer to the city gates, and then told the Temple authorities? What might have been their response? Would it be anger, fear, frustration? Would they have dismissed Jesus and his followers as confused or even silly? Would they have rolled their eyes asked, "What is that peasant, that madman doing this time?"

Did the authorities watch as Jesus slid off the donkey and then, much like a senior cavalry officer, make this quick-step inspection tour through the Temple? They might have asked, "Who does this pretender think he is?" The man must still think he is going to be the new David and take control of the government and the Temple."



All of that speculating might seem like a waste of time. It is also a God-given opportunity to look at a sometimes puzzling event, such as Palm Sunday, from different perspectives. The true blessing of giving ourselves permission to fantasize is that we might catch of glimpse of something meaningful.

For example, the cloaks and palm branches placed on the road into Jerusalem, was a visual form of respect and greeting. Yet, it is all too similar to the 'red carpet treatment' we give visiting dignitaries or D-level celebrities. That might lead us into exploring how we welcome Jesus - with too much solemnity or too much familiarity?

Interesting things come to an open mind and heart. Some of it we reject instantly, but in other instances, we hold on to those ideas for possible future consideration.

G C Stoppel
Priest Associate
Episcopal Church of the
Good Shepherd, Allegan, MI

Directory of Area Churches

Allegan Assembly of God
424 DeLano St, Allegan
Pastors Tim Heath & Paul Hays
Church: 673-6577

Allegan Bible Church
412 S. Sherman, Allegan
Pastor Jon Gruss
Church: 673-6831

Allegan Christian Center
700 Ely St., Allegan
Paul Knuckles, Pastor
Church: 673-2921

Allegan County Jail
Chaplain Sarah Montgomery
Phone: 673-0350

Allegan United Methodist Church
Corner Walnut & Trowbridge streets, Allegan
Pastor Julia Humenik
Church: 673-4236;

At the Master's Feet
814 21st St., Otsego
269-694-6897
Paster Ray Brown

Blessed Sacrament Church
110 N. Cedar Street, Allegan
Fr. Simon Manjooran
Church: 673-4455

Bloomingdale Bible Church
210 Chestnut at Pine NW
Bloomin gdale
Ofc. 269-427-2101

Bravo Community Church
5587 113th Ave., Fennville
Pastor Duane Terpstra
616-886-1214

Burnips United Methodist
4241 30th, Burnips
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
616-896-8410

Calvary Church of Wayland (IFCA)
304 S. Main Street, Wayland
Pastor Chad Peckham
ccwayland.org

Casco United Methodist Church
880 66th Street, South Haven
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
269-227-3328
www.cascoumc.org

Chicora Country Chapel
4399 108th Ave., Allegan
Pastor Herb Curry
Phone: 269-370-5834

Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave., Allegan
www.alleganccc.org ·
(269) 673-2329
Pastor Wally Coots

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
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Church: 673-9617

Church of God - Otsego
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Pastor Stephen Burrow Sr.
269-694-9481
www.otsegocog.com

Corner Bible Church
4001 124th Allegan
www.cornerbiblechurch.com

CrossWind Community Church
1632 142nd Avenue
Dorr, MI 49323
616-359-9013
Pastor Tommy Boutell

Dunningville Reformed Church
2559 M-40, Allegan
Church: 751-5894
dunningville.org/index.html

East Martin Christian Reformed Church
510-118th Ave., Martin
269-672-5746
www.eastmartincrc.org

Epiphany Lutheran Church (LCMS)
4219 Parklane, Dorr
www.epiphanydorr.org
Sunday service at 9:15 a.m., Bible Study and Sunday School following

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
101 North Walnut St, Allegan
Office: 673-2254

Faith Baptist Church
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John Looman, Pastor
673-5040 1-888-354-3272

Fennville Assembly of God
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Fennville, MI 49408
269-561-2683

Fennville United Methodist Church
5849 124th St., Fennville
269-561-5048
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

First Presbyterian Church
200 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church: 673-4631
www.fpcallegan.org
10:00 service time.

First Baptist Church
1290 32nd St., Allegan
Service at 10:00am
Pastors Nathan Smith & Brendon Bayley
www.fbcallegan.com

First Baptist Church of Otsego
247 E Allegan St., Otsego
(269) 694-4160
firstbaptist@fbcotsego.org

First Church of God
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269 673-3881
www.pathtohim.org
Pastor, Tim Secord

First Congregational Church
323 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church Office: 673-3139
Pastor Todd Wagner

First Congregational Church
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269-694-6085
Pastor Lenny Luchetti

First Presbyterian Church of Plainwell
303 East Bridge St.
Plainwell, MI 49080
685-5990

Friendship Bible Church
104 Baker St., Hopkins, MI
Pastor Chris Cronk and Worship Pastor Tony Caldarona
Office 793-7929

Ganges Baptist Church
6577 122nd Avenue, Fennville
269-543-4203
11AM each Sunday

Ganges United Methodist Church
2218 68th St
Fennville MI 49408
Phone 269-543-3581
Lay Minister - Marcia A. Tucker

Grace Church of Hamilton
3690 Lincoln Rd. P.o. Box 97
Hamilton Mi 49419
269.264.4900
Gracechurchofhamilton@gmail.com

Hope Lutheran Church
290 12th St., Plainwell
(269) 685-1348
Pastor Nicole Smith
Worship 10:30am; S. School 9:15am

Hopkins Community Reformed Church
2142 128th Ave., Hopkins
(269) 793-7361
hopkinscommunitychurch.net

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 N. Maple St., Hopkins
(269) 793-7323
Pastor Kelsey French

Horseshoe Community Bible Church
4950 104th Avenue, Grand Junction
269-521-4580 ·
Pastor Don Miller

Immanuel Lutheran Church
631 Grand Street, Allegan
Church: 673-3335
Rev. Christopher Laughlin

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness
2199 Taft Road, Allegan
Phone: 673-6179

Living Waters Community Church
5458 M-89, Fennville
Service: 10:30 Sundays
Pastor Andrew Leach
269-561-5277

Martin Reformed Church
1073 W. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor: Matthew Hendricks
672-5596

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor Margaret Stoken
269-672-7097
www.martinumc.org

Merson Church
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www.mersonchurch.org

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Monterey Center, 49328
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
793-7288

Mt. Calvary M.B. Church
5425 105th Ave., Pullman
Pastor Everett Belue
269-382-3405

New Hope Baptist Church
2011 Lincoln Road (M-40 N)
Pastor Tadd Butler
673-1938

Northbridge Church
8824 Douglas, Kalamazoo
269-385-4378 ·
www.northbridge.cc

Northpoint Ministries
04077 M40 (M40/CR390)
Gobles MI · 269.628.9199
Pastor Gary Lounsberry
Sunday Worship: 11am

OAKLAND CRC
4460 38th Street
Hamilton. Mi. 49419
616 688 5290
Pastor Mark Vande Zande

Otsego United Methodist Church
223 E Allegan St. Otsego MI
10:00 a.m. Worship
Reverend Dan Minor
Otsegomethodistchurch.org

Pathfinder North Church
(A Global Methodist Church)
532 M 89, Otsego, MI 49078
9:30 Fellowship 10:00 Worship
Rev Ron Hansen
Pathfindernorth.com

Peace Lutheran Church
805 S. Wilmott St., Otsego
www.peaceotsego.com
694-6104

Pearl United Methodist Church
1689 56th St., Fennville
269-561-5048 Worship 9:30 am
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

Pentecostal Church of God I.M
2281 57th St, Fennville
Wed/Miércoles @ 7:00 pm
Sunday/Domingo @ 10:00 am
Worship Service @ 11:00am
Rev. Jeremias & Maribel Gaytan
231) 923-6887 - (231) 923-6959
Email: gytnj@yahoo.com

Plainwell Church of Christ
911 James St.
Plainwell, Michigan 49080

Plainwell First Baptist Church
404 W. Bridge St., Plainwell
(269) 685-8888
Pastor George Osborn

Plainwell First United Methodist Church
200 Park St. Plainwell
269-685-5113
www.fumcplainwell.com

Rectify Church
247 N. Main St., Allegan
616-218-1556
Pastor Sarah Montgomery

Redemption Place Church of God
1900 M-40, Allegan
Pastor Deborah Lesher
Church: 269-355-1167

Refreshing Springs Ministries
201 Briggs St., Allegan
616-510-7416
Pastor Adrian Hall

River of Life Church
605 W. Allegan, Otsego
269-672-9904
www.alleganchurch.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church
229 Cutler Street, Allegan
Dan Rachor, Pastor
Church: 673-3284

Shelbyville United Methodist Church
938 124th Ave., Shelbyville
672-7097 - Church office
Pastor Margaret Stoken

South Monterey United Methodist Church
Pastor Kelsey French
Church: 793-7323

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11850 9 Mile Rd., Shelbyville
269-664-4345
Service: Sundays 9:30 am

Saint John's Church Of God In Christ
716 Academy St, Allegan
Rev. Jeremiah Johnson Sr.
Phone: 673-8590—673-3007

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1764 34th St., Allegan
Pastor Ronald Kruse 673-2079
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

St. Margaret's Catholic Church
766 S. Farmer St., Otsego
269-694-6311

Third Coast Community Church
www.thirdcoastff.org |
269.857.5633
6069 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Trowbridge Community Church
355 26th Street, Otsego
Pastor Mykel Hall, Pastor
Church: 673-5502

Unity Baptist Church
35 14 12th St. Wayland
Pastor Kelly Ryan
Cell # (269) 330-2217

Watson Bible Church
1626 116th St., Otsego
Pastor Tim Morris
672-2166

Wayland Community Church
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Meals ■ *from Page A1*

terms as the body's chair..

He and 13-year CAAC executive director Lisa Evans believe early severance came as reprisal — "out of spite," Storey told this newspaper — for the agency making clear it would take its case to the cities and townships countywide.

So far, Evans said as of March 20, she and/other CAAC representatives have spoken at Saugatuck, Allegan, Otsego, Plainwell and Wayland city council meetings, plus Saugatuck, Laketown, Leighton, Gun Plain, Trowbridge, Watson, Heath, Salem and Dorr township boards. "More are coming," she said, "including Douglas."

To date, Gun Plain Township, Otsego city and last Friday, March 20, Saugatuck Township officials have passed similarly-worded resolutions asking the county to reinstate daily hot meals and wellness check services for eligible county seniors.

Saugatuck Township first heard from Evans March 11, but had no action item on its agenda for the late-breaking county item. That had to wait nine days till the county could call a special meeting with senior meals as the single agenda item.

Saugatuck City

March 9 council meeting minutes show current District 3 county commissioner Brad Lubbers, backed by county administrator Rob Sarro, got out in front of matters by laying out some details.

They also note Storey and U.S. Congress candidate Diop Harris (D-Battle Creek) were on hand. Since 2020 the former has independently written and circulated an "Allegan Storey" blog.

Also CAAC board member Lubbers told council the county had "followed its standard process by issuing an RFP (request for proposals), evaluating bid options and voting."

Why the sudden severance was not addressed

"Under the new model," Lubbers conceded, "instead of five days a week of hot meals, seniors would receive one to three days a week of frozen meals based on factors including cost and logistics."

He acknowledged mixed reactions among seniors — some preferring hot meals and frequent visits, others preferring frozen meals and fewer visits — and that MOW drivers will be new people to most clients.

But he stood firm that "the county's goals include fiscal responsibility with millage funds and ensuring that anyone needing more frequent wellness checks can be connected to other Senior Millage."

Some in council felt less assured. Mayor pro-tem Joe Clark that night voiced ,concern about changes being made with scant regard to those most affected and the abruptness of the decision.

Councilman Scott Dean echoed Clark's concerns, adding he would like to look into the matter further to ensure the community is raising, not lowering, the bar on services for vulnerable seniors.

Peer Gregory Muncey concurred, saying he found it "odd that council has just been informed of a significant shift that will take effect very soon."

Saugatuck Township

At the township's March 11 board meeting, Storey called his ex-county board peers' action "mean-spirited."

"The county pulled a fast one on us," said CAAC driver Elizabeth Engels. "My heart goes out to our seniors."

Daily checkups matter too.

"We are the eyes and ears of our clients," said Evans. "We have found and helped seniors we've found fallen. It's important we check on them every day."

Township trustee Stacey Aldrich called these stories "heartbreaking" and helped set up last Friday's special meeting. Sarro attended that night too, with new information. More on that to come.

The Press

Backlash, given print deadlines, first surfaced here with a March 12 Letter to the Editor headed "County slases help to those most in need." Slases?

The letter, jointly signed by CAAC chair Mike VanDenBerg and Evans, cited county senior poverty figures, added the county abruptly ending it contract was "a sentence of solitary confinement for our most vulnerable neighbors.

"Imagine being 85, frail, unable to cook and watching your door, knowing no one is coming," it continued. "We are not just talking about a daily safety check that prevented and alerted loved ones to injury and, frankly, prevented our elderly from dying."

Storey has continued his crusade — sometimes with a cudgel — in his weekly email epistles. He last wrote Wednesday. March 18, under "Senior meal deal raises ethics questions":

"The RFP was initially drafted with the involvement of a Kent County-based MOW board member (Jo VerBeek, he told us when asked) while serving on the county's COA.

"Subsequently," Storey went on, "(VerBeek) participated in the COA's meeting Feb 18 that voted to reward the several-hundred-thousand dollar contract to MOW over CAAC, an Allegan County nonprofit."

VerBeek's vote that night

"raises conflict of interest concerns given COA bylaws state 'no COA member shall be affiliated with a public or private organization that contracts with Allegan County senior citizens or be involved in any endeavor which would influence the decisions of the COA (Article VIII, Ethics and Conduct),'" Storey said.

"The RFP itself," the ex-county chair went on, "was never presented to the full COA board before it was published for response from proposed vendors.

"Such a review may have caught a curious omission that previous COA boards and staff performed taste tests of the meals proposed by the vendors responding to the RFP.

"A member of the COA evaluation team confirmed no comparison taste tests of the meals offered by the competing organizations were conducted," Storey said. "However, after MOW was awarded the contract, sample meals were sent to senior county staff.

"CAAC delivered hot meals to seniors five days a week until the county board's delegated representative cut its contract 20 days early. MOW's service model in its response to the RFP is to deliver frozen meals one to three days a week.

"When it was pointed out that a sizable number of seniors, up to 20 percent, suffer from mental and/or mobility issues, do not have microwave ovens nor are capable of operating them. MOW said it would supply microwaves," he went on. But n that case, to what avail?

Storey was on a roll. In his "Empire strikes back: Episode 2" entry, he went on, "After it was reported here county officials terminated the CAAC contract 20 days early earlier than its stated expiration, apparently in retaliation for (the agency) telling its story to township and city officials, an attack was mounted at the March 12 Board of Commissioners meeting against the agency and others.

"CAAC," Storey's March 18 account went on, "was mocked for its 20-year-record of superior senior service. It was accused of not fixing some poorly-maintained homes discovered by MOW following its sudden take-over of the meals program.

"The comment was in apparent ignorance of a proposal CAAC recently presented to the COA for a home repair program funded by the senior millage. That proposal was rejected by the county and COA.

"The meals program does not fund home repairs. CAAC has funded some repairs for seniors using federal and state grants, but not all senior meal recipients qualify for the income-restricted fed and state programs.

"Allegan taxpayers," Storey wrote, "fund the meals program through a special millage, funds that will now go to the Kent County outfit."

Wait, there was more: three anecdotes culled from CAAC records by Storey, without giving last names for confidentiality reasons, included:

- Anita from Pullman wrote "... daily meals from (CAAC) is my only real source of having one balanced meal daily. I am bedridden and can no longer shop or cook for myself.
- Nell (no home city pr township given) wrote, "I enjoy the hot meals. Without them every day sometimes I'm not sure what I would do." Nell's son added, "When I'm at work, it (hot meals 5x a week), helps her a lot because she has dementia and forgets how to use the oven and even sometimes the microwave."
- Linda wrote, "I have multiple sclerosis diagnosed 56 years ago. My life is very difficult. I would like to have meals fresh and not frozen."
- Fred and Candice wrote, "My husband has dementia. We are homebound. We had an emergency where I needed an ambulance. Meal delivery came and Faith (meal driver) made sure my husband was cared for."

County Response

Sarro, addressing the Dorr Township board Thursday, March 19, appeared to have moved the goalposts, telling trustees MOW would now offer 5-day-a-week meal delivery options.

He clarified that in a letter to all municipalities Friday:

"Dear Local Unit Leader,

"I am following up on the communication I sent to you March 5, attached for your reference. The county's focus remains on serving our seniors throughout the transition to a new service provider for home-delivered mail, and there are no plans to deviate from the service change.

"The needs of clients continue to be monitored through direct client assessments. Flexibility and varying needs are a common theme. As such, I am pleased to announce this Breaking News:

"The County and Meals on Wheels (MOW) have amended their agreement to allow delivery to occur as little as one day a week if the client requests such and their assessment supports it, up to five days a week (every weekday, excluding holidays) with the option of a hot meal (heated in-home by the driver with the client's permission).

"If your local unit has questions about Home Delivered Meals or any County-supplied senior service, please contact me (Sarro's phone is (269) 998-3386) and I will be happy to meet with you.

"Sadly," Sarro went on, "the county is observing significant misinformation being released by other parties. While we have taken the position not to debate or defend against such information, the county understands local units may need factual information ...

"Increased reporting is another improvement you will see from this transition. Data is being adjusted to ensure accurate reporting can be sorted by local units moving forward. We are hopeful that new reporting will be available within 30 days.

"MOW senior meal delivery began March 11. The board of commissioners received an in-person report from the President/CEO of MOW the next day at their regular meeting. Please see the summary below:

"Overall, the first deliveries went well. Many clients expressed relief, as they were now assured they would continue to receive meals.

"There has been a positive reaction to the quality and variety of meals. Some clients were pleased to know they can transition to ground or moist meals, as eating solid foods or just liquids may be challenging.

"As anticipated, some clients will miss their previous delivery person. Clients asked whether they would have the same person regularly in the new program. MOW confirmed that clients will generally have a specific driver assigned to each route, which brought them comfort.

"Some clients were not reachable on the first day, either by direct or emergency contact, at the time of the attempted delivery. This is largely due to gaps (incomplete or inaccurate) in the data received to start the transition. As such, creating new, reliable client data has been a key priority.

"Consistent attempts have been made to contact all clients. Most have been reached and meals have been delivered," Sarro's release Friday afternoon went on.

"Over the past week, MOW and county staff have observed that many clients prefer fewer deliveries and are not desirous of three deliveries per week. In fact, at least a dozen have asked for one-day-a-week delivery indefinitely. Keeping time open for medical appointments and other needs has been a priority for many clients.

"Please see below for additional information on the new HDM (Home-Delivered Meals) program:

"The program ensures seniors receive weekly nutritional meals and serves as an in-person visit and check-in, helping prevent senior isolation and enhancing senior safety. Under the new model, the driver can enter the home with permission to help store the food and monitor meal inventory.

"Every participating senior in the HDM program receives a personal assessment to determine their individual needs.

"The menu emphasizes seniors' ability to choose meals they enjoy. Frozen meals allow seniors to eat when they are hungry, not only when delivery occurs.

"A more sustainable cost structure protects services for the future, and the delivery of frozen meals also mitigates weather-related delivery issues with hot meals.

"Meals are dietitian-approved and designed to meet senior nutritional requirements. Freezing preserves nutrients until the meal is reheated.

"Seniors continue to receive the same number of meals per week from the Choice Meal Plan, possibly more based on nutritional needs.mThe service now offers 36 meal options, including breakfast items, milk, juice, and fresh fruit.

"Deliveries were scheduled to ensure clients have a consistent supply of meals conducive to their nutritional and personal needs. Typical meal delivery is on Monday, Wednesday and Friday for most clients, but can be less if requested and up to Monday-Friday if needed.

"For participants without a microwave, donors (who?) generously provide microwaves to those who need them, and drivers may warm and serve a hot meal to those in need.

"Through the MOW program, seniors with chewing or swallowing challenges now have the choice to have their meals ground or pre-cut. Seniors with dietary needs have more nutrition choices with the MOW program.

"Every participant in the program is receiving a meal box containing five shelf-stable meals as part of an inclement-weather plan. These are in addition to the regular meal delivery.

"Allegan County Senior & Veteran Services offers an In-Home Support program that provides additional interaction and services for seniors in need beyond meal delivery. The program will continue to monitor client well-being, coordinate with families and caregivers, and provide referrals to additional services as needed.

"New HDM clients can enroll in meals through the Meals on Wheels Western Michigan client intake process. Staff are available to assist with client management as needed to ensure satisfaction with meal services.

"To learn more about Meals on Wheels Western Michigan, visit www.mealsonwheelswesternmichigan.org or call (616) 459-3111. A FAQ can also be accessed at https://www.allegancounty.org/departments/senior-services."

Wait, there was more. In a press release Monday, Sarro added;

"The updated program offers 36 Registered Dietitian-approved meal choices tailored to meet senior nutritional needs. A Registered Dietitian is available to answer questions about dietary needs.

"Expanded choices include breakfast items, milk varieties including soy, juice and fresh fruit. Participants can eat on their own schedules. Meals can also be adapted for individuals with chewing or swallowing difficulties, including ground or pre-cut options.

"To support emergency preparedness, each participant has received a box containing five shelf-stable meals for use during severe weather or unexpected situations," Sarro's addendum said.

"Working with service providers outside the county is not new," it went on. "Under the previous program, the majority of funding went to meal preparation by a provider in Kalamazoo County.

"Meals on Wheels Western Michigan, which operates in Kent County, has served approximately 200 Allegan County seniors annually since 2016 and employs local residents.

"County leaders emphasize that regional collaboration remains essential to meeting community needs," it said.

Counter Response

"Is Meals on Wheels going to swallow added costs, or will the county?" Storey asked. Both he Evans and Storey were quick to express admiration for Meals on Wheels.

"They've served some Allegan County since 2016," said Evans. "I think they're wonderful."

"I have no aspersions on them," Storey added.

While the county's "pivot," Evens wrote Monday afternoon, "does not immediately address the question of how 57 percent of homebound seniors living in poverty or with significant asset limitations will be referred from out-county MOW to CAAC for the receipt of additional income eligible services … it is, in our view, a 'WIN' for homebound seniors and their caregivers in our community."

We asked whether she and Sarro have had conversations since the sudden rupture. "It's safe to say Rob and I will not be like peas and carrots anytime soon," she said.

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Thursday, March 26, 2026

Baseball Season Preview:

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

FENNVILLE

Experience—earned the hard way—could pay off for Fennville this season.

After fielding a team with no seniors and a heavy freshman presence a year ago, the Blackhawks enter the 2026 campaign with a more experienced roster and added depth throughout the program.

"We had a tough season last year with no seniors and more inexperienced freshmen than sophomores or juniors, but we showed growth throughout," coach Michael Cochran said. "We struggled to win games for a stretch but ended the season playing in our district finals game."

Now in his second year as head coach, Cochran believes that experience will be a key factor moving forward.

"Our strength will be in our experience gained from last year," he said.

Fennville returns a strong senior class led by Dereck Arrenado (center field/pitcher), Zach Onken (first base/pitcher), Zay Peoples (pitcher/infield/catcher) and Ely Schut (utility).

Juniors Khordell Bernard (pitcher/first base) and Riley Campbell (left field/second base) also return, along with a group of sophomores that includes Hayden Harris (right field/catcher), Seamus Lynch (corner infield/pitcher), Noah Stevens (second base/outfield) and Mason Sabala (shortstop/pitcher/catcher).

Senior newcomer Ethan Coffindaffer (infield/outfield/pitcher) adds to the team's versatility, while a number of freshmen are expected to see time at the varsity level as well.

In addition to improved experience on the field, Cochran said the program itself has taken a step forward.

"Last year we had one team with no seniors for Fennville High School," he said. "This year we increased our numbers and have JV and varsity."

With that added depth and a year of growth behind them, the Blackhawks are aiming to take the next step.

"I believe we will continue to grow, improve and win more ballgames," Cochran said. "I am excited for our season as a program."

HAMILTON

After graduating a large senior class from last year's 23-9 team, Hamilton enters the 2026 season with a new look.

But that doesn't mean the Hawkeyes are starting from scratch.

"We graduated a lot of seniors from a very successful team last year," coach Brian Grabinski said. "But we also return four players who already have multiple seasons of varsity experience."

Those returning players will be counted on to lead the way as Hamilton looks to remain competitive in a challenging OK Black Conference.

Seniors Ryan Welscott (catcher), Dylan Loew (first base/pitcher), Jakin Cozzello (infield/pitcher), Caleb Oosterink (infield/pitcher), Connor Schrotenboer (catcher), Keegan Cook (third base), Owen Brown (shortstop/pitcher), Keegan Springer (outfield) and Jack Sabala (outfield) headline the list of returners.

Junior outfielder Marc Brower also returns with varsity experience.

A group of juniors is expected to step into larger roles, including Dylan Blauwkamp (infield/outfield), Andrew Plockmeyer (infield/outfield/pitcher), Tanner DeHaan (catcher/third base/pitcher), Teague Bruursema (corner infield) and Carter Sexton (outfield).

Grabinski believes defense and pitching will be strengths for the Hawkeyes this spring.

"We should have a solid defense and a deep pitching staff," he said.

Offense, however, remains more of a question mark following the graduation of several key contributors.

"Much of our offense graduated, so we are going to need some of our returners to step up at the plate this season," Grabinski said.

With that in mind, Hamilton's primary focus is on consistency and competitiveness.

"Our goal is to be competitive with every team we play," Grabinski said.

That will be especially important in a conference that features several strong contenders.

"Unity, Spring Lake and Zeeland East will all be top contenders," Grabinski said. "We hope to compete with them."

If the Hawkeyes can develop offensively while leaning on their defense and pitching, they could once again find themselves in the mix as the season progresses.

HOPKINS

After a 29-8 season that included conference and district championships, expectations remain high for Hopkins heading into the 2026 campaign.

And with a mix of experienced returners and emerging talent, the Vikings believe they have the pieces in place to be right back in the mix.

"The team's goal is to win the conference each year and go as far as we can in the postseason," coach Pat O'Dell said.

Hopkins returns a core group of players with significant varsity experience, led by senior Kellen Ford, a four-year varsity player who is expected to play a key role both on the mound and in the field.

"We have good leadership this year with Kellen Ford leading the way as a four-year starter, as well as some veteran players who are all stepping up and doing their part to make our program better," O'Dell said.

Fellow seniors Adam Halsted (pitcher/infield/outfield) and Cruz Hitzler (pitcher/infield/outfield) also return with multiple years of varsity experience.

Juniors Merek Zapolnik (pitcher/corner infield), Michael Woollam (catcher/second base) and Trent Smith (second base/pitcher/third base) round out the group of key returners.

Hopkins will also look for contributions from a number of junior newcomers, including Blake Schwartz (catcher/first base/outfield/pitcher), Zeke Jankowiak (pitcher/outfield), Brayden Smigiel (pitcher/outfield/first base), Brayden Maher (pitcher/outfield/third base) and Justin VanWagner (third base/outfield).

Several sophomores could also see time at the varsity level during weekend tournaments.

O'Dell believes pitching depth and versatility will be among the Vikings' biggest strengths this season.

"Players are being asked to move from the infield to the outfield, and vice versa, and our players are looking good doing that right now," he said.

Despite graduating some key contributors, Hopkins has reloaded with players who gained valuable experience last season.

"We lost some guys last year, but replenished them with our JV guys who came up," O'Dell said.

As always, the conference figures to provide a stiff test.

"Fruitport, Calvin Christian and NorthPointe Christian are always tough," O'Dell said. "But everyone in the conference should have some experienced pitchers."

If the Vikings can continue to build on last year's success while maintaining their strong team chemistry, they could once again find themselves competing for a conference title and a deep postseason run.

Martin will rely on senior Hayden Buell for both is bat and his pitching. (File photo)

"I feel we should be just as good as last year," O'Dell said. "The boys are working hard and there is a lot of camaraderie in the program, which makes the season fun."

MARTIN

A long postseason drought is front of mind for Martin heading into the 2026 season.

The Clippers haven't won a district title in 20 years, but that is clearly the goal this spring.

"If we can stay focused, we have a tremendous opportunity to win districts and make a run in the postseason," coach Brad Blauvelt said. "We haven't won districts in 20 years, so that is our main goal."

Martin returns a senior-heavy group that has been playing at the varsity level for several years, providing both experience and leadership.

"This year's senior class has played on varsity since they were freshmen," Blauvelt said. "They have a great amount of experience."

That group is led by senior Haylen Buell, who has been a key contributor both at the plate and on the mound.

"Haylen has led the team at the plate and on the mound over the past three years," Blauvelt said.

Other seniors include Anderson Keeler (third base/pitcher/outfield), Isaac Suk (catcher), Bryer Watson (second base) and Jackson Kennedy (pitcher/outfield).

Juniors Blake Sweeting (first base/pitcher) and Cody Wooten (outfield), along with sophomore Caleb Hopkins (outfield), also return with varsity experience.

Martin will also look for contributions from newcomers Peyton Schuring-Harris (senior, outfield/pitcher) and Zaiden Buell (freshman, utility/pitcher), both of whom are expected to make an immediate impact.

"We add Peyton Schuring-Harris to the mix and Zaiden Buell, both will have immediate impacts on the team," Blauvelt said.

see Baseball, Page B2

Dennany leads Otsego past Allegan

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The Otsego girls soccer wasted little time taking control in its non-league match with host Allegan on Monday, March 23.

Behind a two-goal performance from Peyton Dennany, the Bulldogs earned the 5-0 win over the Tigers.

Otsego controlled play from the outset, out-shooting the Tigers 33-0 and building a four-goal lead before halftime.

Otsego controlled most of the possession in its game with Allegan. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Kara Moore got the scoring started in the eighth minute off an assist from Constantine Taylor, and Dennany added a pair of goals in the 32nd and 34th minutes to quickly extend the lead.

Allie Proctor made it 4-0 just before halftime, finishing off a pass from Dennany in the 37th minute.

Valeria Verdin added the final goal in the 80th minute.

Despite the outcome, Otsego coach Levi Butcher said there are still areas his team can clean up moving forward.

"We certainly didn't make the most of our chances tonight, but did more than enough to put the game out of reach in the first half," Butcher said. "The bottom line for us is that we weren't good in and around our opponent's box for most of the night. We need to improve on that, and we definitely have the players to do so."

Zoe Alkire recorded the shutout in goal for Otsego, though she was not forced to make a save.

For Allegan, coach Stu McLean saw positives, particularly in how his team responded after a difficult first half.

"Otsego is a really good team, no doubt about it," McLean said. "They've got some dangerous offensive threats up top and they make you pay for any lapses. We had a couple of minor mistakes in the first half that let them get the lead, and they capitalized quickly."

McLean highlighted several players for their efforts, including goalkeeper Mya Corbett, who made a number of key stops to keep Allegan within striking distance, along with Elana Byers, Zoey Phillips and Ellie Ziemelis for their work in the field.

"Overall, as much as we are disappointed in the result, I liked the fight and the adjustments we made at halftime," McLean said. "We'll learn from this one and apply it to our next game."

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ATHLETE of the WEEK
Peyton Dennany
Otsego
Girls Soccer
The 2026 girls soccer campaign is just getting underway.
But you'd never know that by watching Otsego sophomore Peyton Dennany. Because she appeared to be in mid-season form when the Bulldogs traveled to Allegan on Monday, March 23.
Dennany scored two goals and assisted on another to lead Otsego to the 5-0 win.

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Allegan tennis wins three at Early Bird

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Depth was the difference for the Allegan girls tennis team over the weekend.

Hosting its annual Early Bird Invitational on Saturday, March 21, the Tigers turned in a dominant performance, going unbeaten against Grand Haven, Coopersville and Mason.

Allegan posted 9-0 wins over both Coopersville and Grand Haven before finishing with a 7-2 victory against Mason.

Seven of the Tigers' nine flights went 3-0 on the day, and Allegan did not drop a set until late in the afternoon.

"The depth of this group really showed," coach Damien Arthur said. "We're a very experienced team, especially in doubles, and that made a big difference."

Allegan's doubles lineup—featuring five seniors across the six spots—set the tone with strong communication, aggressive net play and consistent shot placement throughout the day.

At singles, Kendall Halstead delivered one of the most notable performances of the invite, rallying for a three-set win against Mason in what Arthur described as the match of the day.

"She showed a lot of grit and determination to come back and win that one," Arthur said.

With the three team wins, Allegan improved to 5-0 overall on the season.

The Tigers opened the week with another strong showing, earning a 5-3 win over NorthPointe Christian in a dual meet on Thursday, March 19.

In that matchup, Allegan once again relied on its doubles depth to secure the victory.

"The doubles flights really came through for us," Arthur said. "Our singles players also showed a lot of toughness in some very competitive matches."

The win pushed Allegan to 2-0 at that point in the season.

Arthur also reached a personal milestone during the Early Bird Invitational, recording his 100th career victory as a varsity head coach.

Allegan will look to carry that momentum into the upcoming Allegan Invitational.

Baseball ■ from Page B1

Blauvelt believes experience and pitching depth will be key strengths for the Clippers this season.

"We haven't had this much depth at pitching in a very long time," he said.

After finishing 10-16 a year ago, Martin is aiming to take a step forward, both in the regular season and beyond.

"I think Galesburg-Augusta will be the team to beat in our conference," Blauvelt said.

OTSEGO

A blend of experience and new faces defines Otsego heading into the 2026 season.

The Bulldogs return several key contributors from last year's team, including a group of seniors who will be counted on to lead the way.

Leading that group are Karl Hildebrand and Matthew Jackson, who return as the team's top two pitchers from a year ago.

Hildebrand went 6-3 with a 3.30 ERA last season, while Jackson logged valuable innings on the mound as well.

Brennan Perry also returns to anchor the defense at shortstop, giving Otsego a steady presence in the middle of the infield.

Other returning seniors include Nic Adams (utility), Logan Brinkhuis (first base) and Jaxon Ray (utility/pitcher), while junior Landon Wrobleski (utility/pitcher) also brings varsity experience.

"The 2026 edition of Bulldog Baseball has a good mix of experience and new faces," coach Matt Eldred said.

Otsego will look to replace some key production, particularly on the offensive side after graduating several contributors.

"That will be a bit of a question mark as the season gets started," Eldred said. "Returning starters like Hildebrand, Perry, Ray, Jackson and Wrobleski will be looked to lead the offense."

On the mound, Eldred expects multiple players to contribute throughout the season.

"With pitch counts, it is always all hands on deck and we will see some other pitchers emerge as we get going this spring," he said.

A number of newcomers could also factor into the mix, including juniors Merrill Bailey, Dylan Becraft, Dillon Campbell and Nathan Maisel, along with sophomores Reid Anderson and Leland Longcore and freshman Nolan Whitmore.

The Bulldogs will also be adjusting behind the plate following the graduation of Scottie Durr, with Wrobleski and Whitmore among those expected to compete for time at catcher.

As always, the Wolverine Conference figures to be competitive from top to bottom.

"There are several teams that could make a run at the conference title," Eldred said. "The WC baseball coaches all do a great job of having their teams ready to compete, and we often see very competitive games from top to bottom."

If Otsego can develop consistency at the plate while continuing to get quality innings on the mound, the Bulldogs believe they can be in the mix as the season progresses.

"If we can stay healthy, throw strikes and get the bats going, I think we have a group of kids who could find themselves right in the mix for the conference title at the end of the season and who could make a run in the MHSAA tournament," Eldred said.

PLAINWELL

When Plainwell coach Chris Taylor thinks about the strengths of his team this year, one thing immediately jumps out.

The Trojans return six starters from last year's team, including a pair of four-year varsity players in seniors Andrew Hampton and Luke Filkins.

Hampton, a first-team all-state shortstop, and Filkins, an all-conference and all-district pitcher, headline a senior class that will be counted on to lead the way.

"Those two have been key contributors for us over the past few years," coach Chris Taylor said.

They are part of a larger senior group that includes Grayson Nash (outfield), Ian Wheatley (pitcher), Jayden Emmons (outfield) and Ronald Nunez (second base).

Junior CJ Laninga (third base) and Landon Naas (outfield), along with sophomore Urijah Davis (outfield), also return with varsity experience.

Plainwell will look to complement that group with several newcomers, including juniors Jaxon Bernhard (outfield) and Alex Yonkers (catcher), as well as freshmen Brennan Dull (catcher), Brady Howard (first base) and Landon Nienhuis (outfield).

Taylor believes the Trojans' senior leadership will be one of their biggest strengths this spring.

"We have strong senior leadership that should help guide some of our younger players," he said.

After finishing 13-18 a year ago, Plainwell is looking to take a step forward in what figures to be a competitive Wolverine Conference race.

"Niles, Three Rivers and Vicksburg will all be top contenders," Taylor said. "We expect to compete for the conference championship."

Jack Drummond is back for his junior season at Saugatuck. (File photo)

With a solid returning core and experienced leadership at key positions, the Trojans will look to build consistency and put themselves in position to contend throughout the season.

SAUGATUCK

A new era of Saugatuck baseball is underway this spring.

With Jaden Grigg taking over as head coach, the Trailblazers enter the 2026 season with a mix of experience, youth and a clearly defined identity.

"We decided as a team that our core covenants would be 'United' and 'Relentless,'" Grigg said. "We want to work together toward a shared goal and do everything to the best of our ability every day. We'll stick to our process and let the results take care of themselves."

Saugatuck returns a small but experienced senior class in Sam Bos (IF/P) and Morgan Davis (OF), both of whom bring multiple years of varsity experience.

The strength of the roster, however, lies in a deep junior class that includes Holden Burd (MIF/P), Alex Carlotto (OF), Jack Drummond (OF/P), Grady Gross (IF), Oliver Hosier (OF/P), Tristan Jimmerson (OF), Braison Jones (MIF/P), Evan Kothman (IF/P), Soren Peterson (IF/P) and Kevin VanDam (OF).

"We have a heavy junior class with a lot of varsity experience," Grigg said. "They're going to play a big role for us."

Sophomores Carlos Perez (IF) and Nolan LaLonde (C/IF/P) also return, while a small group of freshmen—including Colton Knikelbine (C/OF), Henry Mulligan (MIF/P), Ben Howard (OF) and Emmett Adams (OF)—will look to contribute.

Experience and team chemistry are expected to be key strengths for the Trailblazers.

"The energy has been good, the players get along well and they're pretty loose," Grigg said. "We have guys who are stepping into new roles, but they've shown they're willing to adapt and grow."

One area Saugatuck will need to address is replacing innings on the mound after graduating several pitchers from last year's team.

"There will be pitchers who haven't thrown a lot of innings in the past," Grigg said. "They've shown they can throw strikes in bullpens, but it's different in games. The focus is on continuing to improve and sticking to the process."

In the SAC, Saugatuck expects a competitive race.

"Galesburg-Augusta has won three straight division titles, so they've proven they're the team to beat," Grigg said. "But D-K, Gobles, Martin and B-R are all quality teams. We'll have to bring our best every game."

After finishing 12-18 last season, the Trailblazers are focused less on results and more on growth as they begin this new chapter.

"This group is committed to getting better every day," Grigg said. "If we do that, we'll put ourselves in a good position."

WAYLAND

Youth will be a defining characteristic for Wayland this season.

But that youth doesn't necessarily mean inexperience.

Despite having no seniors on the roster, the Wildcats return their entire pitching staff from last year and bring back several players with multiple years of varsity experience.

"We are young on paper with no seniors, but return the entire pitching staff from last season and lost only two starters to graduation and injury," coach Drew Lakatos said.

That returning core is led by a group of juniors who are entering their third year at the varsity level, including Hoyt Borgic (outfield/pitcher), Ty Ford (first base/pitcher), Gerrit VanLonkhuysen (infield/pitcher) and Easton Williams (shortstop/pitcher).

Junior outfielder Jaxson Ritsema also returns for his second year on varsity.

Sophomores Landon Atwell (catcher/infield), Gavin Mulder (pitcher/third base) and Will Lodenstein (pitcher/outfield) round out the group of returning players.

Wayland will also look for contributions from a mix of newcomers, including juniors Elijah Lawson (infield/pitcher), Louis Harnish (catcher) and Nolan Morgan (pitcher), along with sophomores Trent Moore (pitcher/outfield) and Cam Weber (pitcher/outfield) and freshman Colston Lown (catcher/infield).

With so many returning arms, pitching figures to be a strength for the Wildcats. The key will be how quickly the rest of the roster develops.

"We play a difficult nonleague schedule and hope some younger, less experienced players can step up to those challenges," Lakatos said.

Wayland will face stiff competition in the OK Gold Conference as well.

"We expect to be competitive in the OK Gold with the likes of South Christian, West Catholic and Northview," Lakatos said.

In the meantime, Lakatos said the focus has been on steady improvement as the season approaches.

"The players are working hard to get better every day and cannot wait to get on the field," he said.

If the Wildcats' younger players can grow into their roles while the pitching staff delivers as expected, Wayland could be a team that improves as the season progresses.

Otsego tennis plays well

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

PORTLAND—Otsego turned in a strong showing Saturday at the Portland Invitational, competing against Ludington, DeWitt and Portland.

The Bulldogs came away with multiple individual flight wins against a competitive field.

Senior Ellie Koringa led the way, winning her bracket at No. 2 singles with consistent play and strong net work.

Senior Alie Bronson also claimed a flight title in her debut singles tournament, going 3-0 to win the No. 3 singles bracket.

At No. 4 singles, Lydia Griffith battled through her bracket to earn a first-place finish, using steady ground strokes and effective ball movement.

Otsego also found success in doubles, with the No. 2 team of Hope Stender and Mila Garrett finishing runner-up. The duo picked up wins over DeWitt and Portland during the invite.

Soccer results:

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Saugatuck 8 B'dale 0

Saugatuck opened the season in dominant fashion Friday, March 20, earning an 8-0 mercy win over Bloomingdale.

Senior captain Neave Rewa led the offensive attack with four goals, while senior Avery Smith added a goal in her return from injury.

Freshmen Charlie Gustafson, Claire Robb and Ryann Monroe also found the back of the net for the Trailblazers.

Hamilton 8 Saugatuck 0

Hamilton delivered a strong performance Monday, March 23, posting an 8-0 mercy win over Saugatuck.

Joselyn Paskvan and Ella Achterhof each scored two goals for the Hawkeyes, while Emma Slotman, Maci Brott, Grace Sexton and Emma Klingenberg added one goal apiece.

Achterhof recorded three assists, with Paskvan and Klingenberg each adding one.

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For The Record

Peek at the Past

From the pages of The Allegan News and The Allegan County News and Gazette:

March 29, 1951

Community play to be presented here April 3, 4: Allegan Community Players will present their closing production of the season on next Tuesday and Wednesday evening, April 3 and 4. In answer to many requests by playgoers they have selected an old-time comedy favorite, "Are You a Mason?" The play has already had a premial success with community theater groups and drama societies for many years. When it opened on Broadway for the first time, the cast included Cecil B. DeMille and May Robson, whose name famous in the theater world. Next Tuesday evening at 8:15 p.m. when the curtain goes up, Allegan will see some of its player-citizens appearing in one of the century's laugh-happy successes.

The production is being directed by Mrs. Abbie Smith. Set design and lighting are in the able hands of the Players' backstage artist, Clair McComber. The cast includes the following-time favorites of local audiences, Dick Nahikian and Ray Adams. Two others familiar to playgoers are Julia Hunter and George Humm. The newcomers to the Ancient and Exalted Order of Greaspaint Thespians are: Jack Henderson, Caroline Orr, Robert King (of the Weber Buick Rings, that is), Bessie Bishop, Mary Hagedorn, Nancy Kline, and Margaret Dawson.

March 25, 1976

Big, burly 'blacksmith poet" at Western: Allegan's renowned "blacksmith poet," Clifton Schelhas, has accepted an invitation from Western Michigan University's Honors College Director Sam Clark to give a rare public reading of his works.

The reading is scheduled for 8 p.m. April 1 in room 3760 of Knauss Hall, near Miller Auditorium on the WMU campus, and Schelhas will be guest of honor at a reception in the lobby following the reading.

While the event is open to the public at no charge, seating capacity of the room reserved for the event is limited to only 150 persons on a first-come, first-served basis.

BIG, BURLY, and 62 years old, with craggy features and a clean-shaven head reminiscent of a Prussian military officer, Schelhas' appearance speaks of brute force, but his poetry has both subtlety and sensitivity—enough so to have been described as "beautiful" by Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Gwendolyn Brooks.

Despite his outwardly unpoetic—if not anti-poetic—features, and a sometimes shady past, poetry has been one of very few really consistent things in Schelhas' varied life, and it's the only thing he started in his youth that he's stuck by all his life.

Born in Baltimore, he has lived in Allegan all but a few years of his life, barely graduating from Allegan High School where his deportment raised more problems than his academic ability.

March 29, 2001

Racial incident stuns Allegan community: Alfonzo Banks of Allegan refused to feel threatened. He refused to feel frightened. If those who left a burning cross on his lawn had no guts to face him, he had no reason to fear. Police suspected the same perpetrators burned a cross on the lawn of a white family about a half a block away.

Banks, 19, an African American who has lived all his life in Allegan, became aware of a disturbance outside his home at 200 Hudson St. late in the evening of Thursday, March 22. He looked out to see a cross almost six feet high burning near the street. He said the cross, soaked in kerosene, burned only on the lower part. It left no traces the following day, not even a stake hole.

"I heard noises when I was in bed," Banks said. "I didn't see anyone when I looked out."

A 2000 graduate of Allegan High School and an employee of L Perrigo Co., Banks lives next door to his family.

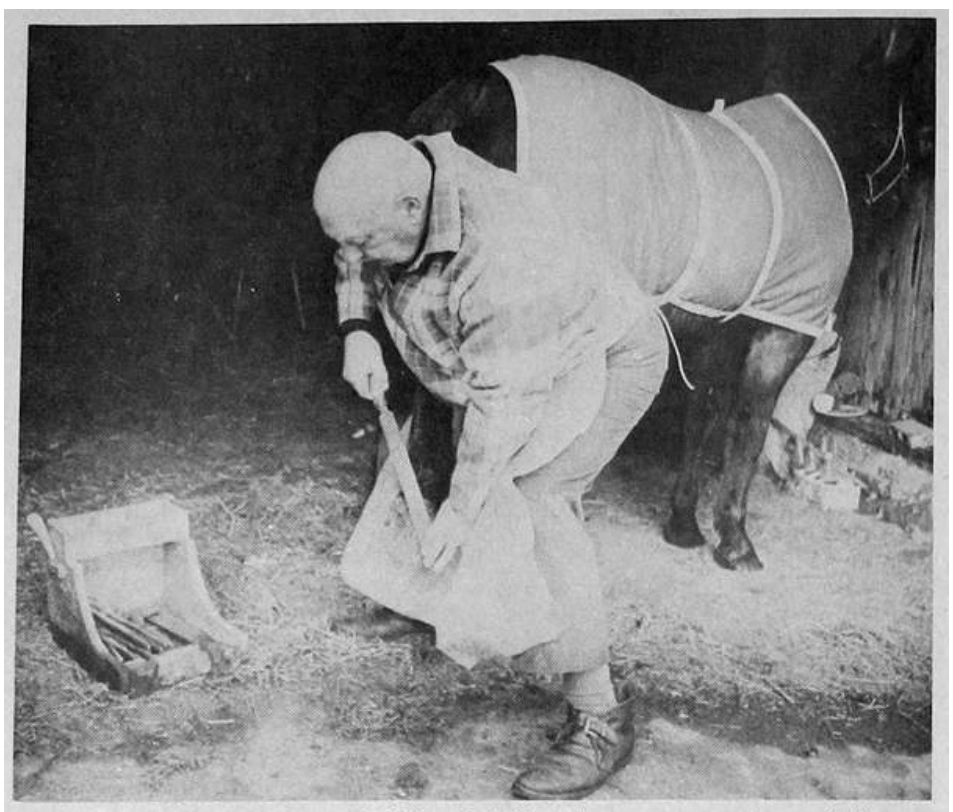
"I just moved here," he said. Race relations in Allegan are good, Banks said, and he has both white and black friends. As far as he knew, no one should have any reason to target him with a cross burning.

"I'm cool with everybody," he said. "I'm disappointed. Why would you do something like this? I just want to get this over with. I hope this never happens again."

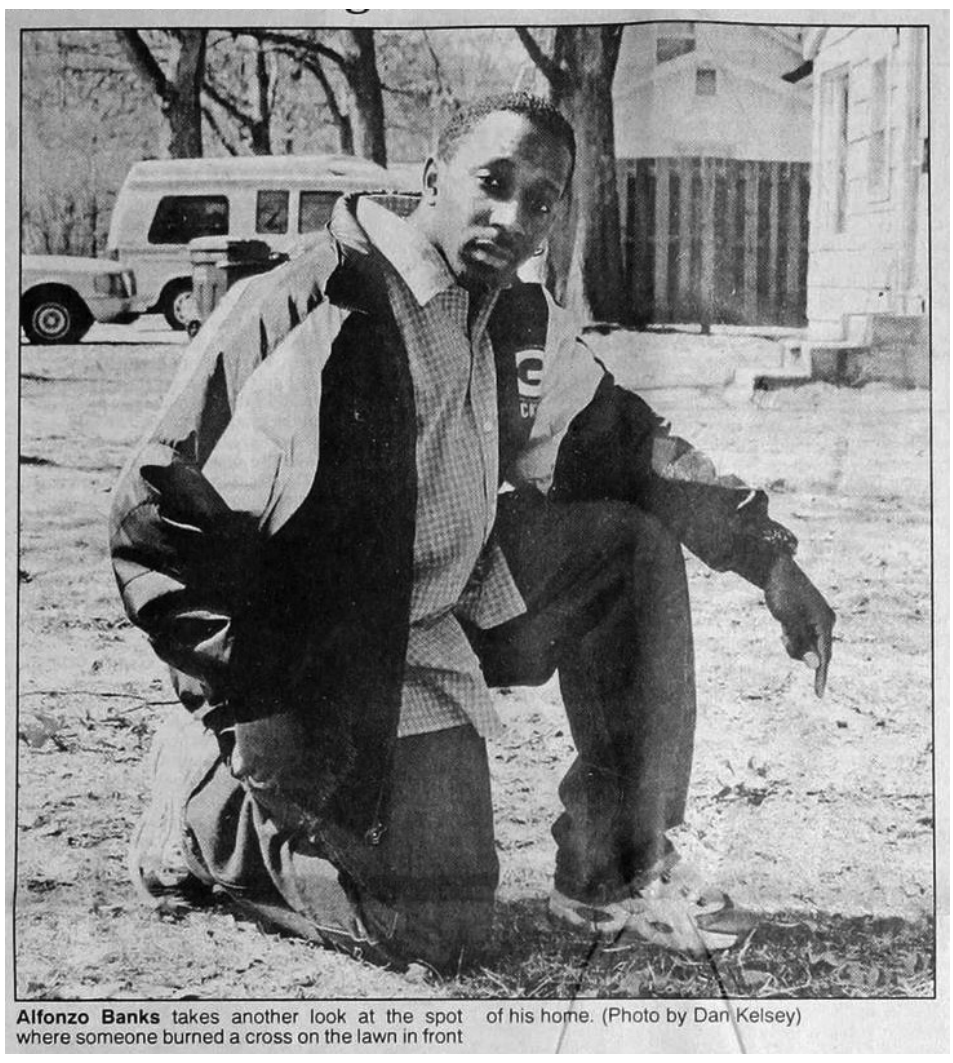
Allegan City police Sgt. Denny Gorr said Friday investigators could offer no immediate answers as to who burned the crosses or why. He said an officer answered the Banks' complaint about 11:10 p.m. Thursday. Another officer found a burned cross on the second lawn about 7:10 a.m. Friday.

"We're using all our resources to get the answers," Gorr said. "We believe that both crosses are linked to the same person or persons. This kind of act will not be tolerated. It's unacceptable."

He said the act was unprecedented in Allegan. "We haven't had a cross burning," Gorr said.



Allegan's "blacksmith poet" Clifton Schelhas demonstrates the craft that earned him his title. Besides raising, riding, shoeing, and judging horses, Schelhas is a good enough poet to have won accolades from at least two poets of national reknown, including Pulitzer Prize-winner Gwendolyn Brooks. —News & Gazette photo



Alfonzo Banks takes another look at the spot where someone burned a cross on the lawn in front of his home. (Photo by Dan Kelsey)

April 1, 2021

Ribbon cutting to show off Fennville school improvements: During 2020 while Fennville Public Schools administrative and teaching staffs struggled like other districts to find the right mix of in-person and virtual learning to maintain academic levels, contractors and their workers pushed forward to complete the renovations outlined in the district's 2017 Bond Issue. Included were renovations and new construction to the elementary and high schools, the Community Athletic Building, the stadium, and even the transportation department benefitted, plus the addition of a secure entry to the Community Athletic Complex.

A Ribbon Cutting on Wednesday, March 31, 2021 will celebrate the improvements to Fennville Public Schools' campus related to construction that began in the summer of 2019. The ceremony will begin at 5 PM at the new stadium.

Marileen Pitts, executive secretary, shared, "Our girls' soccer team is excited to be the first to play on the new field."

The stadium improvements were postponed by several months due to COVID-19. Upgrades include an 8-lane track and synthetic turf field, along with new press box, restrooms and bleachers. Jon Car, who assisted in managing the construction, shared that the last details on the new track would be completed when the weather was more consistent.

School Board Trustee Ross Thiele shared, "The board and the superintendent worked hard to get the field done even though funding was tight due to cost over runs. The new field will be able to handle water better and be used more often by the district. The enlarged track will be 8 lanes. New bathrooms were added as well. More seating and a new press box also make the facility more user friendly."

Construction related to the 2017 Bond began in 2019, and students and staff have been enjoying renovations made to the elementary and middle school buildings. Fennville Elementary required some mechanical upgrades along with new playground equipment, track and landscaping.

The Middle School, which had received a major upgrade in 2006-07, now sports new lockers so all students can have their own storage space.

—Compiled by Jason Wesseldyk

Deaths

March 2, 2026

MARK ALLAN JOHNSON, 55, Lee Twp.

March 5, 2026

JULIE HALEY, 88, Cheshire Twp.

March 6, 2026

MAX LEROY SHOOK, 76, Martin Twp.

JANICE ELAINE HOLLANDER, 56, Ganges Twp.

March 7, 2026

JEFFREY ALLEN MCKEE, 61, Lee Twp.

March 9, 2026

DIXIE MERLE LERCH, 83, Valley Twp.

THOMAS DUANE MANNING, 72, Otsego Twp.

ALICE MAY ABBOTT, 96, Wayland

March 11, 2026

GEORGE HENRY NORTHRUP, 90, Cheshire Twp.

RONALD LEE SMITH, 89, Dorr Twp.

March 13, 2026

FANNIE TIMMER, 100, Wayland

LARRY EUGENE BEARSS, 79, Holland

March 14, 2026

CHARLES DOUGLAS ELKINS, 86, Otsego

March 15, 2026

MARIETTA WHITAKER, 88, Otsego Twp.

Marriages

The following people applied for a marriage license between march 10 and March 18:

ADAM MAX DREYFUSS, Los Angelos, and **IILANA HARRIET ROSENBERG PARACH**, West Hollywood, CA

HALEY ALYSSA WRIGHT, Otsego, and **WILLIAM MERLIN COX**, Alma

FRANCES LYNN SHEA, Wayland, and **JAMES ALLEN AGER II**, Wayland

KHALAN MARIE ROE, Dorr, and **QUINN JAN WILLEM SIBERT**, Dorr

GRANT EDWARD SOUTHWICK, Plainwell, and **TERRENCE BRADLEY BAUGH**, Gobles

LUIS DARIN MARTINEZ, Fennville, and **RILEY AMBER LYNN LUTTRELL**, Wayland

VINCENT JOSHUA MURRAY, Allegan, and **KATHRYN ELIZABETH KINDERMANN**, Allegan

KOURTNEY MARIE ELAINE RADKE, Allegan, and **GUNNER MATHEW RYAN**, Allegan

AMANDA MARIA WOHLWEND, Fennville, and **JESSICA RENATE ELIZABETH KENDRICK**, Sarnia

ALAN JAMES ROGERS Otsego and **EDEN MARRELLE COOKE** Three Rivers

Sudoku

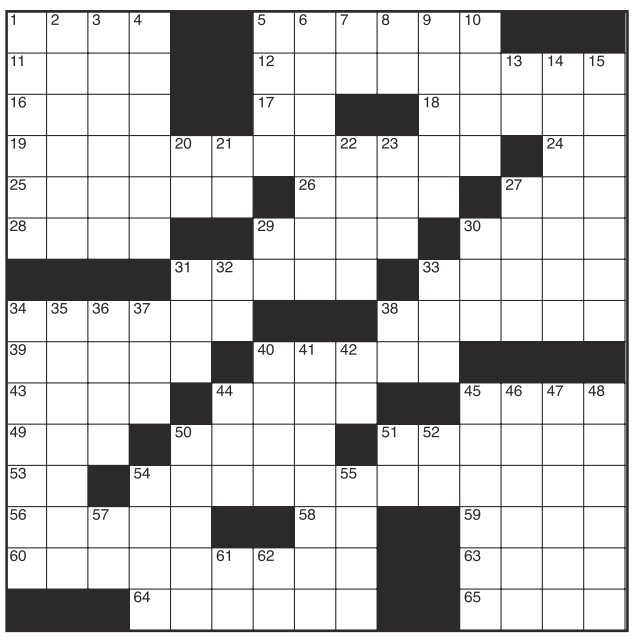
Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

			3					4
					9	5		
				4				
		7			3		2	5
	5	4	6					3
	3		7		8	6		
	1		2				8	
8	7	2						
3	9				7			

(See Solution Page B8)

Crossword



CLUES ACROSS

1. 'Bird of Paradise' constellation
5. Red Sox WS winner Bronson
11. Whirl
12. The State Dept. has a notable one
16. Energy, style and enthusiasm
17. Part of the mind
18. Mountainous country
19. Type of beverage
24. Atomic #109
25. Opposite of falsities
26. Female sheep
27. Rocky peak
28. Sensitive information sharing environment
29. Ethnic group of Thailand
30. Patron saint of Rome Philip
31. Psychedelics
33. Japanese pine
34. Have an impact on
38. Violent disorder
39. A French river
40. Early Mesoamerican civilization
43. Messenger ribonucleic acid
44. Musician Clapton
45. Ancient Greek sophist
49. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
50. Valley
51. A way to unwind
53. Atomic #93
54. Recommending
56. Indigo bush
58. Larry and Curly's pal
59. Off-Broadway theater award
60. Fencers
63. Small Eurasian deer (pl.)
64. Relating to songbirds
65. A way to assign

CLUES DOWN

1. Some are 'secret'
2. Intestinal openings
3. Distant planet
4. Assembly possessing high legislative powers
5. Genus of typical owls
6. One with distinctively colored hair
7. Red cross
8. An alternative
9. Abominable snowmen
10. About ear
13. The opening letters
14. Feeling of regret
15. Atomic #39
20. Luteinizing hormone
21. Atomic #55
22. Carries a debt
23. Albanian monetary unit
27. Semitic abjad letter
29. Yes
30. Negative
31. Earn a perfect score
32. Connecticut
33. Partner to cheese
34. Snack nuts
35. Quadruped's body part
36. Locate
37. Pitching statistic
38. '__, myself and I'
40. Utah city northwest of Provo
41. Football players in the trenches
42. One who runs the show
44. Wood
45. Performing artists
46. Slang for a cut
47. More breathable
48. Most crafty
50. Provokes into action
51. University of Dayton
52. Sodium
54. Large fish of the mackerel family
55. Not one
57. __ and behold
61. Sports highlight show
62. 'The Great Lakes State'

■ see **Solution**, Page B8

SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULE

Allegan Tigers

BOYS BASEBALL

3/26.....@ Otsego
3/31..... vs Hamilton
4/14..... vs South HAven
4/16.....@ Watervliet
4/18.....@ Martin
4/21.....@ Fennville
4/24.....@ Parchment
4/28..... vs Coloma
4/30..... vs Galesburg Augusta
5/5..... @ Bridgmen
5/7.....vs Lawton
5/11.....vs Saugatuck
5/12..... @ Delton Kellogg
5/19..... @ Gobles
5/21.....vs Comstock

GIRLS SOCCER

3/23.....vs Otsego
3/27..... @ Black River
3/30.....vs NOrthPointe
4/15.....@ Watervliet
4/16.....vs Harper Creek
4/17.....@ Paw Paw
4/20..... @ Constantine
4/22.....vs Schoolcraft
4/24.....vs Hopkins
4/27..... @ Hackett Catholic
4/29..... vs Kzoo Christian
5/1.....@ Wayland
5/5.....@ Martin
5/6.....@ Parchment
5/8..... vs Fennville
5/11.....vs LAwton
5/13.....vs South Haven
5/14.....@ Saugatuck

GIRLS SOFTBALL

3/23.....vs Bloomingdale
4/14.....vs South Haven
4/16.....@ Watervliet
4/18.....@ Martin
4/21..... @ Fennville
4/24..... vs Hackett Catholic
4/28..... vs Coloma
5/2.....@ Bangor
5/5..... @ Bridgman
5/7.....vs Lawton
5/12..... @ Delton Kellogg
5/14..... @ Parchment
5/19..... @ Gobles
5/21.....vs Comstock

GIRLS TENNIS

3/17.....@ Schoolcraft
3/19.....@ NorthPointe
3/21..... Early Bird Invite
3/28.....Allegan Invite
4/14..... @ Buchanan
4/16..... @ Hackett Catholic
4/18.....Allegan Tiger Invite
4/22.....vs Brandywine
4/23.....@ South Haven
4/25.....Allegan Invite
4/28.....@ Galesburg-Augusta
4/29..... vs Kzoo Christian
5/2.....Tiger Duals

TRACK

3/18..... Boys @ GVSU
3/19.....Girls @ GVSU
3/27..... @ Hamilton
4/15..... vs Fennville
4/17.....@ Allegan Invite
4/20.....@ South Haven
4/22..... @ Bridgman
4/24..... @ Gull Lake
4/29..... @ Gobles
5/1.....@ Belding
5/5..... @ Gobles
5/8..... @ Gobles

BOYS GOLF

4/16.....@ Saugatuck
4/20..... vs Coloma
4/23.....@ Gobles
4/27..... @ Hawkshead GC
5/1..... @ M89 Challenge
5/4.....@ Watervliet
5/15..... @ Bridgman

Fennville Blackhawks

BOYS BASEBALL

03/23/26 .....@ Bangor
03/25/26 . @ Hackett Catholic
03/31/26 ..... vs Zion Christian
04/14/26 .....@ Watervliet HS
04/16/26 ..... @ Coloma HS
04/21/26 .....vs Allegan
04/23/26 @ Michigan Lutheran
04/25/26 .....vs Lawton HS
04/28/26 ..... vs Bridgman
04/30/26 .....@ Wyoming HS
05/02/26 .....@ Gobles Invite
05/05/26 .vs South Haven HS
05/07/26 .... @ Parchment HS
05/09/26 .....@ Saugatuck HS
05/12/26 ....vs Schoolcraft HS
05/14/26 ..... vs Black River
05/16/26 .....@ TBA

GIRLS SOCCER

3/23..... vs Zion Christian
3/24.....vs Hopkins
3/30..... vs Delton Kellogg
3/31.....vs Potter's House
4/16..... @ Hackett Catholic
4/20.....@ Bloomingdale
4/22..... @ Black River
4/23..... vs St. JOe Lutheran
4/27.....vs Saugatuck
4/30..... vs Coloma
5/5..... vs Bridgman
5/6.....@ South Haven
5/8.....vs Lawton
5/11.....@ Watervliet
5/13.....vs Hartford
5/18..... @ Constantine
5/20..... @ Buchanan

GIRLS SOFTBALL

03/23/26 .....@ Bangor
03/25/26 . @ Hackett Catholic
04/14/26 .....@ Watervliet HS
04/16/26 ..... @ Coloma HS
04/17/26 vs Galesburg-Augusta
04/21/26 .....vs Allegan
04/23/26 @Michigan Lutheran
04/28/26 ..... vs Bridgman
04/30/26 .....@ Wyoming HS
05/05/26 .vs South Haven HS
05/07/26 ..... @Parchment HS
05/09/26 ...@ Covenant Invite
05/12/26 .....vs Lee HS
05/14/26 .....vs Lawton HS
05/16/26 .....vs TBA
05/18/26 .....vs Decatur HS
05/19/26 ..... @ Marcellus HS

TRACK

03/25/26 . @ West Ottawa HS
03/27/26 ..... @ Hamilton
04/15/26 .....@ Allegan
04/17/26 ..... @ Allegan Invite
04/20/26 .....@ Watervliet
04/22/26 .....Fennville Tri
04/29/26 ..... vs Fennville Tri
05/02/26 ... @ East Kentwood
05/05/26 ..... @ Gobles
05/08/26 ..... vs Gobles
05/23/26 .....vs TBA

Hamilton Hawkeyes

BOYS BASEBALL

03/23/26 .....vs Zeeland East
03/24/26 @ Zeeland East HS
03/25/26 .....@ Saugatuck HS
03/31/26 ..... @ Allegan
04/01/26 ..... vs Hopkins HS
04/14/26 .....@ Unity Christian
04/16/26 .....vs Unity Christian
04/21/26 ...vs Spring Lake HS
04/22/26 vs Covenant Christ.
04/23/26 ...@ Spring Lake HS
04/28/26 @ Zeeland West HS
04/30/26 vs Zeeland West HS
05/04/26 ... @ St. Joseph H.S.
05/06/26 vs NorthPointe Christ.
05/09/26 vs Multiple Opponents
05/12/26 .....vs Holland
05/13/26 .....@ Fruitport HS
05/14/26 .....@ Holland
05/18/26 @ Holland Christian
05/20/26 vs Holland Christian
05/26/26 ..... vs Whitehall HS

GIRLS SOCCER

03/23/26 .....vs Saugatuck
03/27/26 ..... @ Zeeland East
04/01/26 .....@ Hopkins HS
04/14/26 vs Thornapple-Kellogg
04/15/26 .... vs Unity Christian
04/17/26 ..... vs Holland
04/20/26 @ Zeeland West HS
04/22/26 @ Holland Christian
04/24/26 .. vs Spring Lake HS
04/27/26 vs Zeeland East HS
05/01/26 .vs South Haven HS
05/04/26 @ Unity Christian HS
05/06/26 ..... @ Holland
05/08/26 .....@ Otsego HS
05/11/26 ..... vs Zeeland West
05/13/26 vs Holland Christian
05/18/26 .. @ Spring Lake HS

GIRLS SOFTBALL

03/24/26 ..... vs Bridgman
03/27/26 @ Thornapple-Kellogg
04/01/26 .....vs Hopkins HS
04/14/26 @ Unity Christian HS
04/17/26 ....vs River Valley HS
04/18/26 vs Multiple Opponents
04/21/26 ... vs Spring Lake HS
04/22/26 ..... vs Jenison HS
04/24/26 @ Harper Creek HS
04/28/26 @ Zeeland West HS
04/30/26 vs Zeeland East HS
05/04/26 .....@ Hastings HS
05/07/26 @ Covenant Christian
05/12/26 ..... vs Holland
05/14/26 ..... vs Buchanan
05/15/26 @ Portage Northern
05/18/26 @ Holland Christian

GIRLS TENNIS

03/21/26 ..... @ Hope
03/23/26 vs Kalamazoo Christ.
03/24/26 ....@ Wayland Union
04/14/26 .....vs Zeeland West
04/15/26 .....vs Jenison HS
04/16/26 @ Zeeland East HS
04/18/26 vs Multiple Opponents
04/20/26 .....vs Holland
04/21/26 .....vs Paw Paw HS
04/22/26 .....@ Unity Christian
04/27/26 vs Holland Christian
04/28/26 ..... vs Lakeshore HS
04/29/26 ...@ Spring Lake HS
05/04/26 ..... vs Otsego HS
05/08/26 @ Multiple Opponents

TRACK

03/27/26 vs Multiple Opponents
04/14/26 vs Holland Christian
04/17/26 ..... @ Allegan Public
04/21/26 .....@ Spring Lake
04/28/26 .....vs Unity Christian
05/05/26 .....@ Holland
05/08/26 .....@ Unity Christian

BOYS GOLF

04/14/26 @ Multiple Opponents
04/18/26 .... vs Hamilton invite
04/23/26 .....@ Crestview
04/25/26 .....@ Lawton invite
04/27/26 ..... @ Spring Lake
04/28/26 vs Hamilton Jamboree
05/01/26 .. @ M-89 Challenge
05/04/26 ..... @ Spring Lake
05/08/26 ....@ Winding Creek
05/15/26 ... @ Comstock Park
05/18/26 .....@ the Ravines

Hopkins Vikings

BOYS BASEBALL

03/18/26 .....@ Otsego HS
03/24/26 .... @ Wayland Union
03/25/26 .....vs Lumen Christi Catholic
03/27/26 ...vs Coopersville HS
03/31/26 ..... vs Fruitport HS
04/01/26 .....@Hamilton
04/14/26 ..... @Belding HS/MS
04/17/26 .@ Plainwell Schools
04/21/26 ...@ Kelloggsville HS
04/23/26 ..... @ Lakewood HS
04/24/26 ..... vs Napoleon HS
04/25/26 ..... vs Allendale HS
04/28/26 ... @ Calvin Christian
04/30/26 ..vs South Haven HS
05/02/26 .....@ GR Union
05/05/26 vs NorthPointe Christian
05/09/26 ...@ Coopersville HS
05/12/26 ... @ Godwin Heights
05/15/26 ..... @ OPEN
05/16/26 ..... @ OPEN
05/16/26 @ Gull Lake Schools
05/18/26 .... vs Comstock Park

GIRLS SOCCER

03/19/26 ..@ Coopersville HS
03/24/26 .....@ Fennville HS
03/26/26 vs Wayland Union HS
03/30/26 .....@ Wyoming HS
04/01/26 ..... vs Hamilton
04/15/26 .....vs Belding
04/17/26 .....vs Three Rivers
04/20/26 ..... @ Fruitport HS
04/22/26 .. vs Calvin Christian
04/24/26 .....@ Allegan
04/27/26 ..vs Kelloggsville HS
04/28/26 .....@ NorthPointe
04/29/26 ...@ Comstock Park
05/04/26 .. @ Godwin Heights
05/08/26 vs Portage Northern

GIRLS SOFTBALL

03/18/26 .....@ Otsego HS
03/20/26 .....@ Wyoming HS
03/24/26 vs Holland Christian
03/27/26 vs Zeeland East HS
03/31/26 ..... vs Fruitport HS
04/01/26 ..... @ Hamilton
04/14/26 ... @ Belding HS/MS
04/16/26 ..... vs Gobles
04/17/26 @ Plainwell Schools
04/21/26 ..@ Kelloggsville HS
04/22/26 ..... vs West Ottawa
04/25/26 ..... vs Allendale HS
04/28/26 .. @ Calvin Christian
04/30/26 ..... @ Olivet HS
05/02/26 @ Thornapple-Kellogg
05/07/26 @ GR Catholic Central
05/09/26 ..... @ Mona Shores
05/12/26 .. @ Godwin Heights
05/18/26 ... vs Comstock Park

TRACK

04/14/26 .....@ Kelloggsville
04/17/26 .....@ Watervliet HS
04/21/26 ..... @ Fruitport
04/28/26 .....vs Hopkins Quad
05/02/26 ..... vs Hopkins Invite
05/05/26 @ Gull Lake Schools
05/08/26 @ Multiple Opponents
05/11/26 .....@ Comstock

BOYS GOLF

04/15/26 .....@ Fruitport HS
04/17/26 @ Thornapple-Kellogg
04/20/26 .....@ Comstock Park
04/22/26 .@ NorthPointe Christ.
05/01/26 .....vs Fruitport HS
05/12/26 .....@ Belding HS/MS
05/15/26 .....@ Comstock Park

Martin Clippers

BOYS BASEBALL

03/20/26 .....vs Bloomingdale
03/24/26 ...vs Tri-Unity Christ.
03/26/26 .... vs Benton Harbor
04/01/26 .....vs G.R. Union
04/14/26 ..... @ Black River
04/16/26 .... @ Delton Kellogg
04/18/26 .....vs Allegan
04/21/26 vs Galesburg-Augusta
04/24/26 .....vs W MI Aviation
04/28/26 .....vs Saugatuck HS
05/02/26 .....@ Bangor
05/05/26 ..... @ Gobles
05/08/26 ..... vs Zion Christian
05/20/26 . vs Hackett Catholic
05/22/26 ..... vs Marcellus HS
05/26/26 ... vs Comstock Park

GIRLS SOFTBALL

03/20/26 .....vs Bloomingdale
03/24/26 .....vs BC Central
03/26/26 .... vs Benton Harbor
03/27/26 vs Plainwell Schools
03/30/26 .....vs Hastings
04/14/26 ..... @ Black River
04/16/26 .... @ Delton Kellogg
04/18/26 vs Multiple Opponents
04/21/26 vs Galesburg-Augusta
04/23/26 ..... vs Parchment
04/28/26 .....vs Saugatuck
04/30/26 @ Michigan Lutheran
05/05/26 ..... @ Gobles
05/12/26 ...@ Berrien Springs
05/20/26 .....vs Centreville
05/22/26 ..... vs Marcellus

TRACK

04/15/26vs Multiple Opponents
04/17/26..... @ D4 Invite
04/20/26 .....@ Schoolcraft
04/22/26 ..... @ Constantine
04/24/26 .....@ Kent City HS
04/29/26 ..... vs SAC Meet
05/05/26 ...@ Championships
.....at Gobles

Otsego Bulldogs

BOYS BASEBALL

3/18.....vs HOpkins
3/24.....vs Three Rivers
3/26.....vs Allegan
3/31..... @ Plainwell
4/14.....@ Niles
4/16.....@ Marshall
4/20.....@ Kzoo Central
4/21..... @ Edwardsburg
4/23.....vs Wyoming
4/28.....vs Vicksburg
4/30.....@ Hastings
5/5.....@ Paw Paw
5/12..... vs Sturgis
5/15.... @ Thornapple Kellogg
5/21..... vs Coldwater

GIRLS SOCCER

3/18.....vs Kzoo Central
3/20.....vs Wayland
3/23.....@ Allegan
3/25.....@ Loy Norrix
3/30..... vs N. Muskegon
4/15.....@ Three Rivers
4/17.....vs Kzoo Central
4/20.....vs Niles
4/22..... vs Edwardsburg
4/25.....@ Lakeview
4/27.....@ Vicksburg
4/29.....vs Paw Paw
5/4..... @ Sturgis
5/6..... vs Plainwell
5/8 ..... vs Hamilton
5/11.....vs Harper Creek
5/13..... W. MI Aviation
5/18.....vs St. Joseph

GIRLS SOFTBALL

3/18.....vs Hopkins
3/24.....vs Three Rivers
3/31..... @ Plainwell
4/14.....@ Niles
4/16.....@ Marshall
4/18.....vs Coopersville
4/18.....vs South Haven
4/20.....@ Kzoo Central
4/21..... @ Edwardsburg
4/23.....vs Wyoming
4/28.....vs Vicksburg
4/30.....@ Hastings
5/5.....@ Paw Paw
5/12..... vs Sturgis
5/14.....@ Harper Creek
5/15.... @ Thornapple Kellogg
5/16..... @ Gull Lake
5/21..... vs Coldwater
5/26.....vs Kzoo Central

GIRLS TENNIS

3/18.....vs Hastings
3/21..... @ Portland
3/24.....vs Marshall
3/30.....vs Wayland
4/1..... vs Plainwell
4/13.....@ Three Rivers
4/15.....vs Niles
4/18..... vs Plainwell
4/20..... vs Edwardsburg
4/23.....@ Vicksburg
4/27.....vs Paw Paw
4/29..... @ Sturgis
5/2.....@ Allegan
5/4..... @ Hamilton
5/6.....vs Lakeshore

TRACK

3/18..... @ GVSU
3/24.....@ Niles
3/31..... @ Plainwell
4/15.....vs Three Rivers
4/17.....@ Allegan
4/21.....@ Vicksburg
4/25.....@ CR Elite Challenge
4/28..... vs Sturgis
5/1..... @ Spirit of the Wild
5/8..... @ Conferences

BOYS GOLF

4/13..... @ Edwardsburg
4/20.....@ Niles
4/22..... @ Lake Doster
4/22..... @ Shamrock hills
4/23..... @ Gull Lake
4/29.....@ Three Rivers
5/14... @ C.E. Const. Tourney

Plainwell Trojans

BOYS BASEBALL

3/18..... vs Delton Kellogg
3/20..... @ Portage Central
3/25..... @ Loy Norix
3/27.....vs Wayland
3/31.....vs Otsego
4/14.....@ Three Rivers
4/17.....vs Hopkins
4/21.....vs Paw Paw
4/23.....@ Hastings
4/25... @ Wooden bat tourney
4/28..... vs Edwardsburg
4/30.....@ Schoolcraft
5/2..... @ Thornapple Kellogg
5/4.....@ Kzoo Central
5/5..... @ Sturgis
5/8..... vs Quincey
5/12.....@ Niles
5/15.....@ Pennfield
5/18.....vs Vicksburg
5/20..... vs Benton Harbor

GIRLS SOCCER

3/14..... @ Loy NOrrix
3/18.....vs Lakeview
3/20.....vs Mattawan
3/23.....vs Hudsonville
3/25.....@ Kzoo Central
3/27.....@ Hastings
4/15.....@ Vicksburg
4/18.....@ Marshall
4/20.....vs Three Rivers
4/22.....@ Paw Paw
4/27..... @ Edwardsburg
4/29..... vs Sturgis
5/1.....vs Forest Hills Central
5/4.....vs Niles
5/6.....@ Otsego
5/8..... @ Loy Norix
5/18..... vs Byron Center

GIRLS SOFTBALL

3/14..... @ Loy Norix
3/18.....vs Lakeview
3/20.....vs Mattawan
3/23.....vs Hudsonville
3/25.....@ Kzoo Central
3/27.....@ Hastings
4/15.....@ Vicksburg
4/18.....@ Marshall
4/20..... vs Three Rivers
4/22.....@ Paw Paw
4/27..... @ Edwardsburg
4/29..... vs Sturgis
5/1.....vs Forest Hills Central
5/4.....vs Niles
5/6.....@ Otsego
5/8..... @ Loy Norix
5/18..... vs Byron Center

GIRLS TENNIS

3/19.....vs Wayland
3/23.....vs Pennfield
4/1.....@ Otsego
4/13.....@ Vicksburg
4/15..... vs Three Rivers
4/18..... vs Plainwell
4/20.....@ Paw Paw
4/22..... @ Edwardsburg
4/25..... vs Plainwell
4/27..... vs Sturgis
4/29.....vs Niles
5/5.....vs Schoolcraft
5/7.....@ Hastings
5/9.....Conferences

TRACK

3/24..... @ Edwardsburg
3/31.....vs Otsego
4/14..... @ Sturgis
4/17.....@ Allegan
4/21.....@ Niles
4/22.....Plainwell Jamboree
4/24..... @ Kent City Invite
4/28.....vs Paw Paw
5/8..... @ Conferences

BOYS GOLF

4/13..... @ Edwardsburg
4/16.....@ Vicksburg
4/18..... @ Hamilton
4/20.....@ Niles
4/23.....@ TOm Collins INvite
4/29.....@ Three Rivers
5/1..... @ M-89 Challenge
5/4.....@ Paw Paw
5/13..... @ Sturgis

continued next page

AHS Working: a Musical features Allegan

By Gari Voss

From the opening scene and musical number, the audience at the Allegan Performing Arts Center was pulled into the work force of Allegan, Michigan, when the Allegan High School Theater Department performed Working: A Musical the weekend of March 20 & 21, 2026.

The production is based on Studs Terkel's best selling book of interviews with American workers. The Allegan Drama Department followed Terkel's example and interviewed Allegan workers – skilled traders person Jessica Green, hairstylist Carleigh Sckerman, school bus driver John Caron, waitress Krista Hiscock, School Resource Officers Matt Luyk and Kris Meade, cleaning woman Jamie Morton, and local business owners Greg Tuffelmire and Lucianno Giovannucci. These are examples of the backbone of a community's economy.

Each occupation was punctuated with a song by an award winning composer like Lin-Manuel Miranda, Stephen Schwartz, Micki Grant, Craig Carnelia, James Taylor, and Mary Rodgers. The direction of Kim Sparks and choreography of Emma Brookhouse assisted the young actors in conveying the importance of these workers.

What brought the audience to Allegan was the center stage structure of the iron bridge behind which musical pit director Brenden Hoekstra and the small but powerful "orchestra" of Erin Gleason, Cameron Hachigian,

Working: A Musical took the stage on March 20 & 21, 2026,.

Rohan Marr, and Nate Emerson provided the accompaniment of the vocals. And the vocals, coached by vocal director Rebecca Balkon, were powerful in conveying the importance, and sometimes frustrations, of each occupation.

To tie together segments of Working, PAC Manager Jacob Myny projected backgrounds and videos to draw attention to local workers. Videos included interviews done in the work environment of each worker. To the delight of the audience, throughout the production, the bridge would light up to enhance a scene.

A special thank you goes to each who person shared their profession, their typical days, along with high points and difficulties. In addition, kudos go to videographers Emma Brookhouse, Kim Sparks, Izzy McGowan, and Alesandra Greig. Also, thank you to the tech crew Alex Rex and Matthew Lyon, and sound operators Jacob Myny and Cadel Conrad who moved segments through transitions with pieces moving flawlessly to accommodate interviews and production numbers.

This production has been a passion of Director Kim Sparks since COVID when she learned about the musical. It was that passion that brought this musical look at Allegan to the stage for the community to witness. The foundation supported by local professionals was time intensive. Allegan is blessed to have this level of live theater and the adults and students who make it possible.

Attendance triples at volunteer fair

The 3rd Annual Volunteer Fair at The Silo on Thursday, March 19, 2026, brought teens to retired residents of Allegan County to The Silo in Allegan. The Allegan County Community Foundation (ACCF) hosted the gathering that assembled 55 non-profits from across Allegan County to a single venue. Visitors and vendors alike meandered from table to table examining information, asking questions, and making new connections that could lead to opportunities for volunteering time and talent or expanding their network of service providers.

The response of attendees almost tripled from past years. Members of the Plainwell Honors Society returned for the third time, students from Fennville High School traveled to Allegan, and the ACCF TAG team was in attendance. The teens found numerous agencies and organizations that piqued their interest. At the same time, area retirees and area workers taking a lunch break found new ways to volunteer.

Individuals interested in discovering ways to Volunteer gathered at The Silo in Allegan to learn about volunteer possibilities from 55 non-profits in Allegan County on Thursday, March 19, 2026. In addition to matching funds donated on March 19th, ACCF awarded four $250 grants. Photo: G. Voss

March 19th is Allegan County Gives Day that is sponsored by ACCF. The Volunteer Fair offers individuals an opportunity to give time and talent, but for those who are unable find time and/or wish to give treasures, they can donate to organizations of their choice. Any amount is welcome, and on March 19th, ACCF matched up to $61,000 of the amount given to funds which ACCF holds.

"During this day of giving, we use the power of community to encourage individuals and businesses to support non-profit causes they are passionate about," explained the ACCF team. "Our goal through this giving day is to raise awareness and monetary support for our partners. Supporting endowment funds allows our partners to build resources for future stability. Allegan County Gives is a 24-hour initiative that fosters individual philanthropy by encouraging residents to give their time, talent, and treasure."

"Allegan County showed up in a big way!" punctuated Lauren Hunt-Vander-Ploeg, ACCF Community Impact Manager. "Together, our community gave nearly $80,000 to support 38 different funds at ACCF from 127 generous donors. With ACCF's $61,000 match, that impact was amplified - creating more than $140,000 in support for Allegan County, now and forever."

Individuals attending the Volunteer Fair had an opportunity to enter a drawing. Winners were able to designate $250 of ACCF funds to a non-profit of their choice. This year's winners donated their $250 grant winnings to Wings of Hope, Good Shepherd Baby Closet, Al-Van Humane Society, and Sylvia's Place.

The 2027 Volunteer Fair and Allegan County Gives have been set for Friday, March 19, 2027, at The Silo. March 19th is significant because on March 19, 1965, the Declaration of the Trust was signed by Ethol W. Stone, Earl D. Delano, and Chester Ray establishing the Foundation. The first endowed fund was created in 1969 by Ethol Stone with a $1.2M bequest, and nearly 60 years later it still supports Foundation efforts.

In the meanwhile, contributions to existing funds can be made by reviewing the funds listed at https://allegan.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/list. No matter the amount, the donations are welcome.

Faces in the Crowd

By G C Stoppel

The Academy Awards for 2026 were held on March 15th. Whether your favorites won or lost, the event is already rapidly slipping into the rear-view mirror. One question intrigues me: Do you still go to the movie theaters?

-Woman near the Fennville Post Office; Wrinkled her nose, "No. Why should I? It's all just trash nowadays. Garbage."

- Couple near the Fennville hardware store; Woman: "We used to, maybe ten years ago. It was our date night if we could find something good. We'd go up to Holland, have dinner at Bob's [Bob Evans] and see a movie." Man: "Or, sometimes we'd see a movie and then go to Steak and Shake." Woman: "That was a trip right back to high school days." Both laugh.

-Young couple near the Fennville grocery store; Woman, "No, we got a streaming service. It's expensive, but it's cheaper than going out all the time." Man: "Popcorn is a lot cheaper, too." Nodded vigorously.

-Man in front of the Allegan Public Library: "We do. It was pretty miserable for a few years during Covid, but it's back now. I'll tell you the place we like to go: the Knickerbocker on 8th Street in Holland. They show films from around the world. We like it. It's not too high cost, but my wife and I like it, so we treat ourselves. You ever go there?"

continued from last page

Saugatuck Trail-blazers

BOYS BASEBALL

03/23/26 ..... vs Potter's House
03/25/26 ..... vs Hamilton
03/26/26 ..... @ Hartford
04/13/26 ..... vs Gobles
04/16/26 ..... vs Black River
04/21/26 ..... vs Delton Kellogg
04/22/26 ..... @ Calvin Christian
04/28/26 ..... @ Martin
05/02/26 ..... @ Valley Cup
05/05/26 @ Galesburg-Augusta
05/09/26 ..... vs Fennville HS
05/11/26 ..... @ Allegan
05/16/26 ..... vs OPEN
05/18/26 @ Our Lady of the Lake
05/19/26 ..... @ Bangor

GIRLS SOCCER

3/20..... @ Bloomingdale
3/23..... @ Hamilton
3/26..... vs Bangor
3/27..... vs Covenant Christian
4/13..... vs Niles
4/15..... @ Constantine
4/20..... vs South Haven
4/22..... @ COloma
4/24..... vs Delton Kellogg
4/27..... @ Fennville
4/29..... @ Watervliet
5/4..... @ Barrien Springs
5/8..... @ Black River
5/11..... vs Bridgman
5/14..... vs Allegan
5/15..... vs Hackett Catholic
5/18..... @ Schoolcraft

BOYS GOLF

4/14..... @ Coloma
4/16..... Lakeshore Jamboree
4/18..... @ Hamilton Invite
4/20..... @ Allegan
4/23..... @ Gobles
4/25..... @ Dick's Sporting Goods Invite
4/27..... @ South Haven
4/29..... @ Eagle Eye Invite
5/1..... @ M-89 Challenge
5/2..... @ Bedford Valley
5/4..... @ Watervliet
5/8..... @ Hillsdale Invite
5/15..... @ Bridgman

TRACK

04/15/26 ..... @ Allegan
04/17/26 ..... @ Allegan
04/20/26 ..... @ Gobles
04/22/26 .vs South Haven HS
04/29/26 ..... vs Coloma HS
05/05/26 @ Champ at Gobles
05/30/26..... @ State Finals

Wayland Wildcats

BOYS BASEBALL

03/24..... vs Hopkins
3/26..... @ Coopersville
3/27..... @ Plainwell
4/14..... vs W. Catholic
4/16..... @ W. Catholic
4/18..... @ Sparta
4/20..... @ Union
4/22..... vs Union
4/24..... @ Covenant
4/27..... @ S. Christian
4/29..... vs S. Christian
5/2..... Wayland INvite
5/4..... vs Thornapple Kellogg
5/6..... @ Thornapple Kellogg
5/9..... @ Berrien Springs
5/11..... vs Northview
5/13..... @ Northview
5/15..... vs Wyoming
5/16..... @ West Ottawa
5/18..... @ Wyoming

GIRLS SOCCER

3/20..... @ Otsego
3/23..... vs Hastings
3/26..... @ Hopkins
3/30..... vs W. Catholic
4/1..... vs W. Mi aviation
4/14..... @ Union
4/16..... @ S. Christian
4/20.... vs Thornapple Kellogg
4/22..... vs Northview
4/23..... @ Wyoming
4/27..... @ Covenant
4/29..... @ W. Catholic
5/1..... vs Allegan
5/4..... vs Union
5/6..... vs S. Christian
5/11.... @ Thornapple Kellogg
5/14..... @ Northview
5/18..... vs Wyoming

GIRLS SOFTBALL

4/14..... @ Lakeview
4/16..... @ Ravenna
4/18..... @ Lakeshore Slam
4/20..... vs W. Catholic
4/22..... @ Kzoo Christian
4/24..... @ Covenant
4/27..... @ Union
5/2..... Wayland Invite
5/4..... @ S. Christian
5/6..... vs Thornapple Kellogg
5/8..... vs Coopersville
5/9..... @ Centreville
5/11..... vs Northview
5/14..... vs Byron Center
5/16..... @ Gull Lake
5/18..... @ Wyoming

GIRLS TENNIS

3/24..... vs Hamilton
3/26..... vs Hastings
3/30..... @ Otsego
3/31..... vs Sparta
4/14..... @ West Catholic
4/17..... @ Byron Center
4/20..... vs Wyoming
4/22..... @ Northview
4/23..... @ Zeeland East
4/25..... @ Plainwell
4/27..... vs S. Christian
4/29..... @ union
5/4..... vs Thornapple Kellogg
5/6..... vs Paw Paw

TRACK

4/14.... @ Thornapple Kellogg
4/17..... @ Allegan
4/20..... Wayland Duals
4/24..... @ Hastings Relay
5/2..... @ Hopkins
5/4..... Wayland Duals
5/8conf. @ Thornapple-Kellogg

BOYS GOLF

4/13..... @Forest Hills N.
4/14..... @ W. Catholic
4/14..... @ Union
4/15..... @ Wyoming
4/17.... @ Thornapple Kellogg
4/18..... @ Hamilton
4/22..... Thornapple Kellogg
4/29..... @ S. Christian
4/30..... @ NOrthview
5/1..... @ M-89 Challenge
5/4..... @ Lowell
5/13..... Conf
5/15..... @ Bedford Valley

Local athletics proudly supported by these businesses and organizations!

ACR Heating
Bartz Rumery
Bill Underdown / Century 21 Affiliated
Boniface
Country House Furniture
Dunes View Kwik Shop
H & R Block
Hopkins Propane
James Brandess Studios & Gallery, Inc
Kabri Martyniek / State Farm Insurance
Lynx
Mark Bekken / Saugatuck Harbor Insurance
Sebright
Tammy Kerr / Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate
Uni-Pac
Waanders
Wright Fence

Public Notices

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under Section 3212 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 A.M., on April 16, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Andy Ai, a married man, sole owner, ("Mortgagor"), gave a mortgage to Consumers Credit Union, ("Mortgagee"), dated October 30, 2020, and recorded on November 4, 2020, in Liber 4533, on Page 545, Allegan County Records, Michigan. On the date of this notice, there is claimed to be due the principal of One Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars and 03/100 Dollars ($149,900.03) plus accrued interest at 2.875% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at the place of holding in the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan @ 9:00 A.M. on Thursday, April 16, 2026. Said premises are situated in the Township of Clyde, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: The South 208.75 feet of the West 208.75 feet of the Southeast ¼ of the Southwest ¼ of Section 14, Town 2 North, Range 15 West. Commonly: 5159 118th Ave., Fennville, MI 49408—Tax Id #04-014-014-00 The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, under Section 600.3278 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: February 26, 2026 Consumers Credit Union, Mortgagee Holzman Law, PLLC By: Charles J. Holzman Attorney for Mortgagee 28366 Franklin Road Southfield, Michigan 48034 (248)352-4340

(02-26)(03-26)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 2, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Kendra Snyder and Kevin Snyder, wife and husband as joint tenants

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Nexus Nova LLC

Date of Mortgage: September 20, 2021

Date of Mortgage Recording: October 4, 2021

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $116,010.95

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Lots 20 and 21 EX W 180 ft of Lot 21 also S 1/2 Lots 24 and 25 EX E 200 ft of Lots 20 and 24 Lowe's 2nd Divisional Map.

Common street address (if any): 621 Grand St, Allegan, MI 49010-9060

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: March 5, 2026

Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1586137
(03-05)(03-26)

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE SALE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Rayheim R. Robinson, single man, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Hancock Mortgage Partners, LLC dated September 29, 2022 and recorded September 30, 2022 in Instrument Number 2022008529 St. Joseph County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Planet Home Lending, LLC by assignment. In pursuance and by virtue of a Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief entered for Plaintiff, Planet Home Lending, LLC against Defendant, Rayheim R. Robinson in Case No. 25-375-CH of St. Joseph County Circuit Court, the below premises shall be foreclosed and sold by public auction. Said Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief was entered on the 16th day of January, 2026, wherein there is claimed to be due on said date the sum of One Hundred Seventy-One Thousand Three Hundred Forty-Nine Dollars and Seventy Cents ($171,349.70), plus sums advanced for taxes, insurance and other fees incurred and allowed by said mortgage. Under the Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief and related statutes, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by sale of the mortgage premises pursuant to the Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief and that the sale shall be at public auction to the highest bidder, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within St. Joseph County, on the 30th day of April, 2026 at 10:00 AM, Eastern Standard Time, the following described property, viz: All certain piece or parcel of land situated in the Village of White Pigeon, County of St. Joseph and State of Michigan, described as follows: PARCEL 1: THAT PART OF THE WEST 1/2 OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 1, TOWNSHIP 8 SOUTH, RANGE 12 WEST, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING ON THE NORTHERLY SIDE OF CHICAGO STREET 10 FEET WESTERLY OF THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 34 OF THE VILLAGE OF WHITE PIGEON, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS FOR ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, MICHIGAN, IN LIBER A OF DEEDS, PAGE 16; THENCE WESTERLY ON THE NORTHERLY LINE OF CHICAGO STREET 96.4 FEET; THENCE NORTH 160 FEET; THENCE NORTH 86° EAST TO A POINT 10 FEET, ON SAID LINE, FROM THE WESTERLY LINE OF LOT 33 OF SAID PLAT; THENCE SOUTH 04° EAST 159.55 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. TAX ID# 75-045-777-007-01 PARCEL 2: LOT 33 OF THE VILLAGE OF WHITE PIGEON, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS FOR ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, MICHIGAN, IN LIBER A OF DEEDS, PAGES 15 AND 16. ASLO, COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHWESTERLY CORNER OF SAID LOT 33, THENCE WESTERLY ON THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 33 EXTENDED, 10 FEET; THENCE NORTHERLY, PARALLEL WITH THE WESTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 33 TO NORTHERLY LINE OF LOT 33 EXTENDED; THENCE EASTERLY TO NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 33; THENCE SOUTHERLY ON WESTERLY LINE OF LOT 33 TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. BEING DESCRIBED ON THE COUNTY TAX ROLL AS: LOT 33, ALSO STRIP 10 WIDE ADJOINING LOT 33 ON WEST SIDE, ORIGINAL PLAT OF THE VILLAGE OF WHITE PIGEON. TAX ID # 75-045-200-037-00 Commonly Known As: 300 W Chicago Road, White Pigeon, MI, 49099 and 207 N Melody Street, White Pigeon, Michigan 49099 Tax ID: 75 045 777 007 01 and 75 045 200 037 00 This property may be redeemed during the six (6) months following the sale. Dated: February 27, 2026 Orlans Law Group PLLC /s/Sogol I. Plagany Attorneys for Plaintiff Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084 Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400 File No. 25-006493

NOTICE OF REGISTRATION

FOR THE MAY 5, 2026 ELECTION IN THE FOLLOWING CITIES AND TOWNSHIPS IN THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN IN THE STATE OF MICHIGAN

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS: OF THESE ALLEGAN COUNTY CITIES: DOUGLAS, HOLLAND, AND SAUGATUCK; OF THESE ALLEGAN COUNTY TOWNSHIPS: ALLEGAN, DORR, FILLMORE, HOPKINS, LAKETOWN, MONTEREY, OVERISEL, SALEM, SAUGATUCK, TROWBRIDGE, AND WATSON.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an Election will be conducted on **Tuesday, MAY 5, 2026**. The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the local clerk is Monday, APRIL 20th, 2026. Persons registering between APRIL 21ST through MAY 4TH may do so in-person with the local clerk with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the following locations:

Municipality	Regular Business Hours	Weekend Hours MAY 2 OR 3, 2026
Douglas City, 415 W. Wiley Rd., Douglas MI 49406	Mon – Fri 8 am – 4:30 pm	Saturday 8 am – 4 pm
Holland City, 270 S. River Ave., Holland MI 49423	Mon – Fri 8 am – 5 pm	Saturday 7 am – 3 pm
Saugatuck City, 102 Butler St., Saugatuck MI 49453	Mon – Fri 8:30 am – 5 pm	Saturday 7 am – 3 pm
Allegan Township, 3037 118th Ave., Allegan MI 49010	Mon – Thurs 9 am – 1 pm	Saturday 8 am – 4 pm
Dorr Township, 1683 142nd Ave., Dorr MI 49323	Mon – Thurs 7:30 am – 5:30 pm	Saturday 7:30 am – 3:30 pm
Fillmore Township, 4219 52nd St., Holland MI 49423	Mon, Wed, Fri 8 am – 12 pm	Saturday 8 am – 4 pm
Hopkins Township, 128 S. Franklin St., Hopkins MI 49328	Call for Appointment 269-793-3188	Saturday 8 am – 4 pm
Laketown Township, 4338 Beeline Rd., Holland MI 49423	Mon – Thurs 7:30 am – 5 pm, Fri 7:30 am – 2 pm	Sunday 7:30 am – 3:30 pm
Monterey Township, 3126 28th St., Hopkins MI 49328	Call for Appointment 269-793-2014 Opt. 2	Saturday 7 am – 3 pm
Overisel Township, A-4307 144 Ave., Holland MI 49423	Tues 9 am – 5 pm	Saturday 8 am – 4 pm
Salem Township, 3003 142nd Ave., Burnips MI 49314	Tues & Thurs 9 am – 12 pm; 1 pm – 4 pm	Saturday 7 am –3 pm
Saugatuck Township, 3461 Blue Star Hwy., Saugatuck MI 49453	Mon – Fri 8 am – 4 pm	Saturday 8 am – 4 pm
Trowbridge Township, 913 32nd St., Allegan MI 49010		Saturday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Watson Township, 1895 118th Ave., Allegan MI 49010		Saturday 8 am – 4 pm

All city and township clerk's offices listed above will be open from 7 am to 8 pm on Election Day, MAY 5, 2026 for the purpose of registering voters

PERSONS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AS DEFINED BY THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT SHOULD CONTACT THE APPROPRIATE CLERK'S OFFICE.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT THE FOLLOWING WILL BE VOTED ON:

City Proposals

Macatawa Area Express (MAX) Transportation Authority Operating Millage

School Proposals

GOBLES PUBLIC SCHOOLS OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL EXEMPTING PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE AND OTHER PROPERTY EXEMPTED BY LAW 34.7748 MILLS FOR 10 YEARS. Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of Gobles Public Schools, 409 North State Street, Gobles, Michigan 49055, telephone: (269) 628-9390. **SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF HOLLAND** SINKING FUND MILLAGE PROPOSAL 1.25 MILLS FOR 10 YEARS. Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of School District of the City of Holland, 320 West 24th Street, Holland, Michigan 49423, telephone: (616) 494-2000. **HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS** GENERAL OBLIGATION UNLIMITED TAX BOND PROPOSAL FOR BUILDING AND SITE PURPOSES IN THE AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED $110,560,000. Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of Hopkins Public Schools, 400 Clark Street, Hopkins, Michigan 49328-9538, telephone: (269) 793-7261. PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT THE BONDS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, IF APPROVED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE ELECTORS AT THIS ELECTION, WILL BE GENERAL OBLIGATION UNLIMITED TAX BONDS PAYABLE FROM GENERAL AD VALOREM TAXES. **SAUGATUCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS** SINKING FUND MILLAGE PROPOSAL .5 MILL FOR 3 YEARS. Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of Saugatuck Public Schools, 201 Randolph Street, Douglas, Michigan 49406-0818, telephone: (269) 857-1444. **ZEELAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS** OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL EXEMPTING PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE AND OTHER PROPERTY EXEMPTED BY LAW 18.3090 MILLS FOR 1 YEAR. Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of Zeeland Public Schools, 183 West Roosevelt, Zeeland, Michigan 49464-0110, telephone: (616) 748-3000.

For a full list of all candidates and proposals, please visit our website at www.allegancounty.org or www.michigan.gov/sos

Bob Genetski, Allegan County Clerk/Register

Allegan County Sheriff's Office

Public Notice of Intent to Dispose of Firearms

The following is a list of firearms in evidence at the Sheriff's Office. If no valid ownership claim is received within (30) days of the date of public notice, the firearms listed will be disposed of. Please Note: These firearms are not for sale.

If you have a valid claim to any of these firearms, and are authorized to possess firearms, contact Lt. Mike Brown.

Contact Information:
Lt. Mike Brown
640 River St, Allegan, MI 49010
269-673-0500 X-4592 or mbrown@allegancounty.org.

Complaint#	Make	Model	Caliber	Serial#
22506-21	Ruger	Mod LC9s pistol	9mm	329-73680
7666-21	Beretta	Mod Nano pistol	9mm	NU028595
3210-20	Remington	Mod 870 shotgun	12ga	1172014V
19305-21	Maverick Arms	Mod 88 shotgun	12ga	MV18705B
15114-20	KSA	Mod Crickett rifle	22lr	CPR-12742
15114-20	Walther	Mod CCP pistol	9mm	WK121927
4706-20	SCCY	Mod CPX-1 pistol	9mm	708029
13663-19	S&W	Mod 64 revolver	.38	CHM5231
22506-21	Ruger	Mod LC9s pistol	9mm	329-73680
7383-19	Taurus	Mod PT111 pistol	9mm	TKS29467
5420-20	Sig-Sauer	Mod P365 pistol	9mm	66A721103
3338-21	Glock	Mod 42 pistol	.380	AAVH688
15986-18	Remington	Mod Sportsman 58 shotgun	12ga	71772V
15986-18	Winchester	Mod Ranger 120 shotgun	12ga	L1988970
15019-18	Mossberg	Mod slug barrel shotgun	12ga	R348067
12038-20	Hi-Point	Mod CF380 pistol	.380	P8068978
19121-21	S&W	Mod SD9VE pistol	9mm	FBV4718
13981-21	SCCY	Mod CPX-2 pistol	9mm	768422
5914-12	Hawes Fire Arms	Mod single action revolver	22lr	462002
2202-12	Taurus	Mod PT 1911 pistol	.45acp	NAM78120
8846-21	CZ	Mod P10 S pistol	9mm	UC02746
12996-21	Sig Sauer	Mod P320 pistol	9mm	58J041463
19305-21	Italy	Black powder revolver	.44	209290
12703-19	Kahr	Mod CM40 pistol	.40	JN0593
12703-19	Colt	Mod Automatic pistol	.25	43915
22215-21	S&W	Mod 64-8 revolver	.38spl	CXB6227
20190-21	Taurus	Mod G2c pistol	9mm	ACC725158

Complaint#	Make	Model	Caliber	Serial#
6522-20	Taurus	Mod 2" revolver	.38spl	MT87400
5663-20	Heritage	Mod Rough Rider revolver	22lr	HZ61147
3625-19	S&W	Mod Shield pistol w. laser	9mm	LFL9487
13878-20	Taurus	Mod G3 pistol	9mm	AAL070734
6765-20	Taurus	Mod G2c pistol	9mm	TMS69742
4733-21	Hi-Point	Mod C9 pistol	9mm	P1754667
18501-21	Ruger	Mod Wrangler revolver	22lr	201-62618
9574-21	Ruger	Mod P95DC pistol	9mm	314-03079
19361-20	RIA	Mod M1911A 380 pistol	.380	RIA2091730
5128-19	Hi-Point	Mod C9 pistol	9mm	P1851123
12456-19	Ruger	Mod LC9s pistol	9mm	452-75644
1978-19	S&W	M&P45 pistol	.45acp	NBA4941
15639-19	Colt	Mod 1991A1 pistol	.45acp	2704048
15839-19	S&W	Mod M&P Shield pistol	.40cal	HLL8282
2952-22	Taurus	Mod G2c pistol	9mm	TMB27988
11777-22	Beretta	Mod 21A pistol	.25	DAA222493
15193-22	Heritage Mfg	Mod Rough Rider revolver	.22lr	1BH523051
12089-22	Beretta	Mod 92FS pistol	9mm	L49359Z
7245-22	Hi-Point	Mod C9 pistol	9mm	P10018219
23740-22	S&W	Mod Bodyguard380 pistol	.380	EAT4040
6009-22	Taurus	Mod G2c pistol	9mm	ACK406995
23432-22	SCCY	Mod CPX-1 pistol	9mm	C022797
13403-22	Ruger	Mod LCP pistol	.380	373-39693
805-22	H&K	Mod USP compact pistol	9mm	27-170368
805-22	New England	Mod Pardner shotgun	20ga	NV259217
19216-22	SCYY	Mod CPX-2 pistol	9mm	C104486
14519-22	Taurus	Mod G3c pistol	9mm	ABH840831
22895-22	Taurus	Mod G2c pistol	9mm	ADD205452
12175-17	New England	Mod single shot shotgun	16ga	815234
15277-17	Remington	Mod 11-48 shotgun	12ga	5058824
14518-17	Mossberg	Mod 88 Maverick shotgun	12ga	MV0027331
8729-17	Mossberg	Mod Gamester shotgun	12ga	J384107
8729-17	Remington	Mod 870 Magnum shotgun	12ga	W631783M
1299-17	Stevens	Mod 94 shotgun	20ga	0511161
21613-17	Stevens	Mod 954 rifle	.22lr	L283213
21613-17	Winchester	Mod 1300 shotgun	12ga	L3133144
8431-17	Stevens	Mod 940E shotgun	12ga	none

Public Notices

(03-06)(04-10)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 2, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Kendra Snyder and Kevin Snyder, wife and husband as joint tenants

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Nexus Nova LLC

Date of Mortgage: September 20, 2021

Date of Mortgage Recording: October 4, 2021

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $116,010.95

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Lots 20 and 21 EX W 180 ft of Lot 21 also S 1/2 Lots 24 and 25 EX E 200 ft of Lots 20 and 24 Lowe's 2nd Divisional Map.

Common street address (if any): 621 Grand St, Allegan, MI 49010-9060

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: March 5, 2026

Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1586137
(03-05)(03-26)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
JUDICIAL DISTRICT
48th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
Allegan COUNTY
SUMMONS
CASE NUMBER 26-71727-CH
Emily W. Jipp P-80894

Plaintiff's name, address, and telephone number

Lona Sliter and Fred Sliter

Plaintiff's attorney bar number, address, and telephone number

Michael J. Becker; Orton Tooman PC P81132
314 Trowbridge St.
Allegan, MI 49010
269-673-2136
v

Defendant's name, address, and telephone number

PATRICIA CARPENTER; and LEON CARPENTER, each of his unknown Heirs, Devisees and Assigns
5221 Carolina St.
Merrillville, IN 46410
Civil Case

There is no other pending or resolved civil action arising out of the same transaction or occurrence as alleged in the complaint.

SUMMONS

NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT: In the name of the people of the State of Michigan you are notified:

1. You are being sued.

2. YOU HAVE 21 DAYS after receiving this summons and a copy of the complaint to file a written answer with the court and serve a copy on the other party or take other lawful action with the court (28 days if you were served by mail or you were served outside of Michigan).

3. if you do not answer or take other action within the time allowed, judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

4. If you require accommodations to use the court because of a disability or if you require a foreign language interpreter to help you fully participate in court proceedings, please contact the court immediately to make arrangements.

Issue date: 02/24/25
Expiration date: 05/25/26

STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
COUNTY BUILDING,
ALLEGAN, MICHIGAN 49010
File no: 26-71727-CH
Hon. Emily W. Jipp P-80894
LONA SLITER and FRED SLITER
Plaintiffs
Vs
PATRICIA CARPENTER: and LEON CARPENTER, each of his unknown Heirs, Devisees and Assigns,
Defendants
Michael J. Becker P81132
ORTON, TOOMAN, HALE, McKOWN & KIEL, P.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiffs
314 Trowbridge St., PO Box 239
Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 673-2136

ORDER FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

At a session of court held in the courthouse in Allegan County, Michigan, on 2/27/2026

Present: Honorable Emily W. Jipp, Circuit Court Judge

Plaintiffs filed a verified ex parte motion for service of process in the discretion of the court. After reading the verified motion, the court finds that Plaintiffs have shown that service of process cannot reasonably be made on Defendant Leon Carpenter, each of his unknown Heirs, Devisees and Assigns by the methods provided in MCR 2.105(A), in that Plaintiff has demonstrated diligent attempts to locate Defendant. The court further finds, pursuant to MCR 2.105(I), that service of process by publication is the best available method of service of process reasonably calculated to give Defendant actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.

IT IS ORDERED that Plaintiffs must serve the Defendant Leon Carpenter, each of his unknown Heirs, Devisees, and Assigns by publication for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper located in Allegan County, Michigan.

Hon. Emily W. Jipp P-80894
3-12 3-26

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 16, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Thalious B. Green, a married man and Phyllis J. Green, a married woman as joint tenants with right of survivorship

Original Mortgagee: Lakeland Mortgage Corporation

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): PNC Bank, National Association, successor in interest to National City Real Estate Services, LLC, successor by merger to National City Mortgage, Inc., formerly known as National City Mortgage Co.

Date of Mortgage: February 8, 2003

Date of Mortgage Recording: March 28, 2003

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $170,854.35

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Manlius, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Part Of The Northeast 1/4 Of Section 33, Town 3 North, Range 15 West, Manlius Township, Allegan County, Michigan, Being Described As: Commencing At The South 1/4 Corner Of Said Section 33: Thence North 01 Degree 44 Minutes 03 Seconds East 2228.02 Feet Along The North And South 1/4 Line Of Said Section 33; Thence South 88 Degrees 15 Minutes 57 Seconds East 658.40 Feet: Thence North 01 Degree 58 Minutes 39 Seconds East 405.44 Feet: Thence North 35 Degrees 32 Minutes 09 Seconds East 3.22 Feet; Thence South 87 Degrees 55 Minutes 59 Seconds East 661.93 Feet Along The East And West 1/4 Line Of Said Section 33; Thence North 01 Degrees 30 Minutes 31 Seconds East 465.00 Feet Along The East Line Of The East 1/2 Of The Southwest 1/4 Of The Northeast 1/4 Of Said Section 33 To The Point Of Beginning Of The Parcel Of Land Herein Described; Thence North 87 Degrees 55 Minutes 59 Seconds West 389.56 Feet; Thence North 35 Degrees 32 Minutes 09 Seconds East 74.89 Feet; Thence Northeasterly 59.31 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Left With A Radius Of 100.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 33 Degrees 59 Minutes 02 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears North 18 Degrees 32 Minutes 38 Seconds East 58.45 Feet; Thence North 01 Degree 33 Minutes 07 Seconds East 79.72 Feet: Thence South 87 Degrees 49 Minutes 04 Seconds East 330.47 Feet; Thence South 01 Degree 30 Minutes 31 Seconds West 197.58 Feet Along Said East Line To The Point Of Beginning. Subject To Easements, Restrictions And Rights-Of-Way Of Record. Subject To And Together With An Easement For Ingress, Egress And Utilities Over Part Of The East 1/2 Of Section 33, Town 3 North, Range 15 West, Manlius Township, Allegan County, Michigan, Being Described As: Commencing At The South 1/4 Corner Of Said Section 33; Thence North 01 Degree 44 Minutes 03 Seconds East 2378.02 Feet Along The North And South 1/4 Line Of Said Section 33 To The Point Of The Parcel Of Land Herein Described; Thence Continuing Along Said Line North 01 Degree 44 Minutes 03 Seconds East 66.00 Feet; Thence South 88 Degrees 15 Minutes 57 Seconds East 418.10 Feet; Thence Northeasterly 65.72 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Left With A Radius Of 67.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 56 Degrees 11 Minutes 54 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears North 63 Degrees 38 Minutes 06 Seconds East 63.11 Feet; Thence North 35 Degrees 32 Minutes 09 Seconds East 850.09 Feet; Thence Northeasterly 39.74 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Left With A Radius Of 67.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 33 Degrees 59 Minutes 02 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears North 18 Degrees 32 Minutes 38 Seconds East 39.16 Feet; Thence North 01 Degree 33 Minutes 07 Seconds East 80.08 Feet; Thence Northwesterly 35.79 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Left With A Radius Of 50.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 41 Degrees 00 Minutes 52 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears North 18 Degrees 57 Minutes 18 Seconds West 35.03 Feet; Thence Clockwise 274.40 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Right With A Radius Of 60.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 262 Degrees 01 Minute 43 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears South 88 Degrees 28 Minutes 53 Seconds East 90.55 Feet; Thence Southwesterly 35.79 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Left With A Radius Of 50.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 41 Degrees 00 Minutes 52 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears South 22 Degrees 03 Minutes 33 Seconds West 35.03 Feet; Thence South 01 Degree 33 Minutes 07 Seconds West 80.08 Feet; Thence Southwesterly 78.89 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Right With A Radius Of 133.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 33 Degrees 59 Minutes 02 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears South 18 Degrees 32 Minutes 38 Seconds West 77.74 Feet; Thence South 35 Degrees 32 Minutes 09 Seconds West 850.09 Feet; Thence Southwesterly 130.45 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Right With A Radius Of 133.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 56 Degrees 11 Minutes 54 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears South 63 Degrees 38 Minutes 06 Seconds West 125.29 Feet; Thence North 88 Degrees 15 Minutes 57 Seconds West 418.10 Feet To The Point Of Beginning.

Common street address (if any): 5465 Dalton Rdg, Fennville, MI 49408-8447

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: March 12, 2026

Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1587201
(03-12)(04-02)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
JUDICIAL DISTRICT
48th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
Allegan COUNTY
Case Number 26-71768-CH
Matthew Antkoviak P-5944
SUMMONS

Plaintiffs name, address, and telephone number

Mildred E. Whitcomb Revocable Trust

Plaintiff's attorney bar number, address, and telephone number

Michael J. Becker; Orton Tooman PC P81132
314 Trowbridge St.

NOTICE
OF PUBLIC HEARING
City of Allegan Property Sale

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Allegan, Michigan, shall on April 13, 2026, at 6:00 PM, at the City Council Chambers, Allegan City Hall 231 Trowbridge Street, Allegan, Michigan, hold a public hearing for the purpose of considering the sale of real property as follows:

Sale of the following property on North Street with a parcel number 51-280-018-00 to ND Community Partners:

Legal Description – E 138 FT OF LOT 10 MEAS ALG NORTH ST RUSSELL'S FRACTION.

At that time and place, the City Council shall hear and consider comments, concerns, statements, information, or other communications concerning the proposed property sale. Please send all written comments to the address listed below.

Carol Canales, Deputy Clerk
City of Allegan
231 Trowbridge Street, Allegan MI 49010
(269) 673-5511

GANGES TOWNSHIP
MEETING SYNOPSIS
MARCH 10, 2026 7:00 pm

1. Call to order & Pledge of Allegiance-7:00pm
2. Board Present: Hutchins, Reimink, Hebert, Phelps, Thompson
3. Approved Agenda with addition
4. Correspondence
5. Public Comments
6. Approved Feb 10, 2026 Regular Mtg. Mins
7. Approved Treasurer's Report
8. Approved Listed bills in the amount of $45,337.38
9. Reports from Fire Dept, Planning Commission, and STR Committee
10. Approved Firefighter/First Responder
11. Approved Road Reconstruction Projects and 2026 Dust Control
12. Resolution passed to adopt millage ballot language to renew current road millage
13. Reappointment of Planning Commission Member
14. Heard Public Comments

Public Accuracy Test
For the May 5, 2026, Election
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN, STATE OF MICHIGAN

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF ALLEGAN TOWNSHIP:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Public Accuracy Test for voters in the Hopkins Public School District, regarding the May 5th, 2026, Election, is scheduled for Monday, March 30, 2026, at 10:00 AM.

ALLEGAN TOWNSHIP HALL
3037 118TH Ave
ALLEGAN MI 49010

The Accuracy Test will be conducted to determine that the program and the tabulator being used to tabulate the results of the election count the votes in the manner prescribed by the law.

Michelle Waite, Clerk
Allegan Township

PUBLIC NOTICE
GUN PLAIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION

To: The residents and property owners of the Charter Township of Gun Plain, Allegan County, Michigan and any other interested persons.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Gun Plain Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday April 15, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. at the Gun Plain Charter Township Hall, 381 8th St., Plainwell, Michigan for the purpose of taking comments pertaining to a request for a Special Land Use Permit to permit a Battery Energy Storage Facility on the following parcel ID#03-08-034-021-50, known as Riverview Drive, Plainwell, MI. 49080.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that written comments will be received from any interested person at the Township Office, 381 8th Street, P.O. Box 146, Plainwell, Michigan 49080 up to and including the date of the public hearing and may also be submitted to the Planning Commission at the public hearing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that Gun Plain Township will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services at the hearing to individuals with disabilities upon seven (7) days written notice to the Township Clerk at 381 8th Street, P.O. Box 146, Plainwell, Michigan 49080 or by Phone 269-685-9471 or FAX 269-685-5169.

GUN PLAIN TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION
381 8th Street, P.O. Box 146
Plainwell, MI 49080
Phone 269-685-9471/Fax 269-685-5169

ALLEGAN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
COUNTY LOCAL ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Sealed bids will be received by the Allegan County Road Commission at their office at 1308 Lincoln Road (M-89), Allegan, Michigan until 11:00 A.M., Local Time, April 8, 2026, and, at such time, be publicly opened and read aloud for the following:

PROJECT NO. 400191 – 1.00 miles of roadway reconstruction including clearing, grade establishment, sand subbase, aggregate base, culvert replacements, and restoration on 132nd Avenue from 34th Street to 32nd Street in Monterey Township, Allegan County.

Complete specifications, plans, and bid forms are available at the Road Commission office and the Road Commission website www.alleganroads.org under the Projects link. When accessing plans from the website, please send an email to jkernodle@alleganroads.org to be added to the plan holders list.

All bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the Road Commission and sealed in envelopes with the name and address of the bidder, and the item bid upon clearly marked thereon.

A bid deposit of at least 5% of the bid amount will be required for this item. The bid deposit may be in the form of certified check, cashier's check or bid bond.

The Commission reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive minor technicalities, and to accept the bid that is deemed to be in the best interest of the County of Allegan.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS
OF ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Larry Brown, Chairman
Rick Cain, Vice-Chairman
Harold Hamlin, Member

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
GUN PLAIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

The Gun Plain Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 193 on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 6:00 PM at the regular Township Planning Commission meeting. The proposed ordinance would adopt a Moratorium on considering applications for data centers.

Ordinance No. 193 Moratorium would put a temporary moratorium in effect until August 31, 2026 or until the effective date of any amended or new Township Ordinance or regulations addressing data centers are effective, whichever date occurs first.

A complete copy of the proposed ordinance is available for review at the Township Hall during regular business hours or online at www.gunplain.org.

Effective date
This ordinance shall become effective eight (8) days after publication after adoption.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that written comments will be received from any interested person at the Township Office, 381 8th St., P.O. Box 146, Plainwell, Michigan 49080, up to and including the date of the public hearing and may also be submitted to the Township Board at the public hearing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that Gun Plain Charter Township will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services at the hearing to individuals with disabilities upon seven (7) days written notice to the Township Clerk at 381 8th Street, P.O. Box 146, Plainwell, Michigan 49080 or by Phone 269-685-9471 or Fax 269-685-5169.

GUN PLAIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
381 8th Street, P.O. Box 146
Plainwell, Michigan 49080
Phone 269-685-9471/Fax 269-685-5169

MICHAEL VANDENBERG, SUPERVISOR
GUN PLAIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Public Notices

Allegan, M1 49010
269-673-2136
v
Defendant's name, address, and telephone number
The Estate of Margaret Staal; and each of her unknown Heirs, Devisees and Assigns.
Civil Case
There is no other pending or resolved civil action arising out of the same transaction or occurrence as allegedin the complaint.
SUMMONS
NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT: In the name of the people of the State of Michigan you are notified:
1. You are being sued.
2. YOU HAVE 21 DAYS after receiving this summons and a copy of the complaint to file a written answer with the court and serve a copy on the other party or take other lawful action with the court (28 days if you were served by mail or you were served outside of Michigan).
3. If you do not answer or take other action within the time allowed, judgment may be entered against you for the relief.demanded in the complaint.
4, If you require accommodations to use the court because of a disability or if you require a foreign language interpreter to help you fully particaipate in court proceedings, please contact the court immediately to make arraingments.
Issue Date: 03/06/2026
Experation date: 06/04/2026

STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
COUNTY BUILDING,
ALLEGAN, MICHIGAN 49010
File No. 26-71768-CH
THE MILDRED E. WHITCOMB REVOCABLE TRUST,
Plaintiff
Vs
The ESTATE of MARGARET STAAL;
and each of her unknown Heirs, Devisees and Assigns,
Defendant
Michael J. Becker P81132
ORTON, TOOMAN, HALE, McKOWN & KIEL, P.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
314 Trowbridge St., PO Box 239
Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 673-2136
ORDER FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
At a session of court held in the courthouse in Allegan County, Michigan, on 3/10/2026
Present: Honorable Matthew Antkoviak P-59449, Circuit Court Judge
Plaintiff filed a verified ex parte motion for service of process in the discretion of the court. After reading the verified motion, the court finds that Plaintiff has shown that service of process cannot reasonably be made on Defendant by the methods provided in MCR 2.105(A), in that Plaintiff has demonstrated diligent attempts to locate Defendant. The court further finds, pursuant to MCR 2.105(1), that service of process by publication is the best available method of service of process reasonably calculated to give Defendant actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.
IT IS ORDERED that Plaintiff must serve the Defendant by publication for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper located in Allegan County, Michigan.
Honorable Matthew Antkoviak P-59449
3-19 4-2

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under Section 3212 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 A.M., on May 7, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Timothy L. Arndt Sr., ("Mortgagor"), gave a mortgage to Ignite Credit Union, successor by merger with Allegan Credit Union, fka Allegan Community Federal Credit Union., ("Mortgagee"), dated January 25, 2021, and recorded on May 31, 2023, in Liber 4860, on Page 25, Allegan County Records, Michigan. On the date of this notice, there is claimed to be due the principal of Forty-Six Thousand Six Hundred Six Dollars and 44/100 Dollars ($46,606.44) plus accrued interest at 5.99% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at the place of holding in the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan @ 9:00 A.M. on Thursday, May 7, 2026. Said premises are situated in the Township of Monterey, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: Part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 2, Town 3 North, Range 13 West, described as: Commencing at the South 1/4 Corner of said Section; thence North 89 degrees, 24 minutes West 550.00 feet along the South line of said SW 1/4; thence North 00 degrees, 18 minutes 41 seconds East 718.53 feet to the place of beginning; thence North 89 degrees, 24 minutes 00 seconds West 397.05 feet; thence North 02 degrees, 41 minutes 54 seconds East 233.0 feet; thence North 39 degrees 18 minutes 08 seconds West 145.94 feet; thence North 03 degrees, 51 minutes 54 seconds East 334.78 feet; thence South 89 degrees, 24 minutes 00 seconds East 297.65 feet; thence South 00 degrees, 18 minutes 41 seconds West 521.57 feet; thence South 89 degrees 24 minutes 00 seconds East 162.00 feet; thence S 00 degrees, 18 minutes, 41 seconds West 157.47 feet to the place of beginning. Together with an easement for Ingress and egress and utility purposes over a 66 foot wide strip of land the centerline of which is described as: Commencing at the South 1/4 Corner of Section 2, Town 3 North, Range 13 West, thence North 89 degrees, 24 minutes West 977.0 feet along the South line of said Section to the place of beginning of the centerline of said easement; thence North 02 degrees, 41 minutes, 54 seconds East 952.0 feet; thence North 39 degrees, 18 minutes 06 seconds West 145.94 feet; thence North 03 degrees 51 minutes 54 seconds East 334.78 feet; thence South 84 degrees, 25 minutes 06 seconds East 430.0 feet to the place of ending of said easement. Commonly: 3429 Arndts Dr., Hopkins, MI 49328—Tax Id #16-002-030-90 The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, under Section 600.3278 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: March 19, 2026 Ignite Credit Union, Mortgagee Holzman Law, PLLC By: Charles J. Holzman Attorney for Mortgagee 28366 Franklin Road Southfield, Michigan 48034 (248)352-4340
(03-19)(04-16)

Notice of Foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM on April 16, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Chad Hudson and Tara Hudson, Husband and Wife Original Mortgagee: MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, AS NOMINEE FOR VAN DYK MORTGAGE CORPORATION Date of mortgage: November 10, 2016 Recorded on November 21, 2016, Book 4089, on Page 441. Foreclosing Assignee: LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC. Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Sixty-Four Thousand Thirty-Seven and 49/100 Dollars ($164,037.49) Mortgaged premises: Located in the Township of Hopkins, ALLEGAN County and described as: UNIT 4, EAST LAKE RIDGE, ACCORDING TO THE MASTER DEED THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN LIBER 2025, PAGE 434, ALLEGAN COUNTY RECORDS, AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO AND DESIGNATED AS ALLEGAN COUNTY CONDOMINIUM SUBDIVISION PLAN NO. 142, TOGETHER WITH RIGHTS IN GENERAL COMMON ELEMENTS AND LIMITED COMMON ELEMENTS AS SET FORTH IN SAID MASTER DEED AND AS DESCRIBED IN ACT 59 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1978, AS AMENDED. Commonly known as 2258 N EAST LAKE RD HOPKINS MI 49328 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961 pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. ALAW 5404 Cypress Center Drive, Suite 300, Tampa, FL 33609 (813) 221-4743 26-001818
(03-19)(04-09)

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on MAY 7, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.
Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Gary L Burnett, Jr. and Amber Burnett, to National City Mortgage, a division of National City Bank, Mortgagee, dated October 2, 2007 and recorded October 16, 2007 in Liber 3168, Page 933 Allegan County Records, Michigan. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Six Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Six and 50/100 Dollars ($66,486.50).
Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan at 9:00 AM on MAY 7, 2026.
Said premises are located in the City of Otsego, Allegan County Michigan, and are described as:
Lot 75 of Raven's Addition to the Village (now City) of Otsego, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof.
309 Mckinley Street, Otsego, Michigan 49078
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period. FinCEN reporting will be required of all successful purchasers, absent a lawful exemption.
Dated: March 19, 2026
File No. 26-000602
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(03-19)(04-09)

Notice
of Public Hearing
Monterey Township
Planning Commission Special Meeting

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to PA 110 of 2006, as amended, (the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act) the Planning Commission of Monterey Township will hold Public Hearing(s) at a special meeting to deliberate the following topics on Monday, April 13, 2026 at 7:00 p.m., at the Monterey Center United Methodist Church located at 3022 130th Ave, Allegan, Michigan:

1. An application for special use from Gerald Arnsman, owner of the property addressed 2954 134th Avenue, also known as Permanent Parcel 03-16-010-011-01, and the unaddressed, landlocked parcel known as Permanent Parcel 03-16-010-009-00, to establish a private road over said parcels and including an existing sixty-six (66)-foot-wide easement (L. 1918, Pg. 879) across 2980 134th Avenue, also known as Permanent Parcel 03-16-010-010-01. Said road is to lie within thirty (30) feet of an unassociated parcel(s) and regulated per Section 10.14.A.2.a of the Monterey Township Zoning Ordinance.
2. Any other business that comes properly before the Planning Commission.

Copies are available for review at the Township Hall during regular business hours and on the Monterey Township Website at www.monterey-township.org.

This meeting is intended to provide an opportunity for Township residents and interested citizens to express their opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the requests. Those unable to attend the public hearing are invited to submit written comments to the attention of the Planning Commission Secretary at Monterey Township Hall, 2999 30th Street, Allegan, Michigan, 49010 or by calling 616-877-2000. All written comments must be received by no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, April 10, 2026.

If any resident has a physical disability which may limit his/her participation in this hearing, please notify the Township Hall at least five (5) days prior to the hearing so that reasonable accommodations may be made.

SCOTT BOEVE, CHAIR
MONTEREY TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION
616-877-2000

Salem Township Public Hearing Notice

To consider establishing an Industrial Development District for PDS Plastics, Inc., located at 4311 30th Street, Burnips, MI 49314.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Township Board of Salem Township, Allegan County, Michigan, will hold a public hearing pursuant to Section 4 of the Plant Rehabilitation and Industrial Development Districts Law of 1974, being Michigan Public Act 198 of 1974, on April 14th, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. or later, at the Salem Township Hall, 3003 142nd Ave., Burnips, MI 49314.

At the public hearing, the Township Board will consider a request from PDS Plastics, Inc. to establish an Industrial Development District under the provisions of Act 198 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1974. The district consists of an approximate 6.57-acre parcel of land in Salem Township, described as parcel numbers 19-015-010-00 and 19-015-011-00.

All interested persons shall have the opportunity to be heard.

Renee Busscher, Clerk

NOTICE
OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF WAYLAND
PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission of the City of Wayland will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at 7:00 pm, at Wayland City Hall in the Council Chambers, located at 103 S. Main Street, Wayland, MI 49348, to consider the following application:

APPLICANT
Peace Church Wayland
APPLICATION TYPE
Special land use request
PROJECT ADDRESS
965 Reno Drive
PROJECT PARCEL NUMBER
03-56-007-011-30
ZONING OF SUBJECT PARCEL
I-2, Planned Industrial District
DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST
The applicant requests a special land use to locate a church in the I-2 zoning district, subject to the provisions of Section 20-601(19).

This application is available at the Wayland City Hall for public examination and review during normal business hours. Interested persons may submit comments in writing before the public hearing, or appear in person at the public hearing to become part of the hearing record. The City of Wayland will provide necessary and reasonable aids and services for disabled persons upon 5 days prior notice to the City Clerk at (269) 792-2265.

Amanda Rodriguez
City Clerk
City of Wayland
269.792.2265

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Misc.

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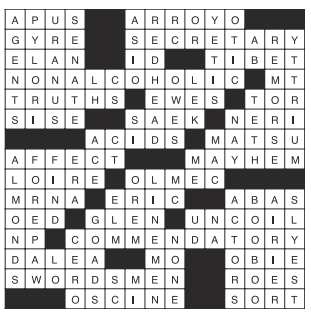

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8	7	2	9	6	4	3	5	1
3	9	5	1	8	7	4	6	2

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